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Jerusalem, 8 Ramban St., Tel. 02-666956
Ramat Gan, 148 Ahuzat, Tel. 052-456770

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	4.50 p.m.	6.08 p.m.
Tel Aviv	5.14 p.m.	6.10 p.m.
Haifa	5.06 p.m.	9.09 p.m.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Page 5
PERES AT HOME AND ABROAD



ROSH HASHANA AND WEEKEND MAGAZINES



CALENDARS GALORE



JAPAN'S 'MODERN' PRINCE
Page 3

Shultz tells of Israel ties

George Shultz's close involvement with Israel stemmed, in part, from his admiration for an Israeli graduate student, the U.S. secretary of state told *The Jerusalem Post*.

In an interview with *The Post's* Washington correspondent, Wolf Blitzer, Shultz said that the honours student, Yosef Levi, studied at the University of Chicago Business School when the secretary was its dean in the 1960s. Levi was killed in the Six Day War. Shultz was so moved by Levi's personal sacrifice that he decided to visit Israel to find out what made the country tick. That first trip was made in 1969.

The secretary of state also discussed his contribution toward Israel's economic recovery and his admiration for Finance Minister Moshe Nisim whom he termed admiringly "a tough-minded guy and a realist."

The full interview appears in today's *Jerusalem Post Weekend Magazine*.

Peres says Soviets urged by Arabs to soften stance

By WALTER RUBY
NEW YORK — Foreign Minister Peres said here yesterday he has received word that some Arabs have urged the Soviet Union to make its Middle East policy more congenial to Israel. Peres did not say which Arabs he was referring to, but it appeared likely the reference was to Jordan.

Speaking to Israeli reporters at the UN after a morning meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz, Peres said, "I know that Arabs have spoken to the Russians about the need for them to move (on the peace process). I hear from Arab sources a somewhat optimistic assessment about possibilities that the Soviet Union (will moderate its Middle East policy). I have no such indications, but I expect to know more tomorrow after my meeting with (Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard) Shevardnadze."

Peres also met yesterday with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and the foreign ministers of Hungary and Poland.

Record Dow gain

NEW YORK (Reuters). — Wall Street shrugged off five successive days of losses yesterday as the Dow Jones Industrial Average soared a record 75 points.

The market reclaimed some of the 120 points it had given up in five successive losses up until Monday, closing 75.23 points higher at 2568.05, according to unofficial figures. The previous record increase was 69.9 set last April 3.

TO OUR READERS

The Jerusalem Post, like other Israeli dailies, will not appear on the Rosh Hashana holiday, tomorrow Thursday, and Friday. The next issue will appear on Sunday, September 27.

Copies printed today:
50,300
THE JERUSALEM POST

Economic stability - the unseen benefit of the wage accord

The agreement on the NIS 75 a month across the board wage increase to be paid to most of the public service employees is a very clear achievement for the Treasury, which succeeded in rejecting most of the other demands raised by the Histadrut in the protracted negotiations.

Even this wage increase is to be in force only for the remaining half of the fiscal year. The union demands, in addition to the increase, called for an additional raise for the lowest paid employees, reducing the work hours per week, and progress on the adoption of a five day work week in the public services. The promise that was given on the five-day week issue calls for the beginning of implementation only after the next elections in November 1988. Nobody can realistically be expected to guarantee that that promise will actually be kept at that time. The agreement on the reduction of the weekly work hours is relevant to only some two thousand workers.

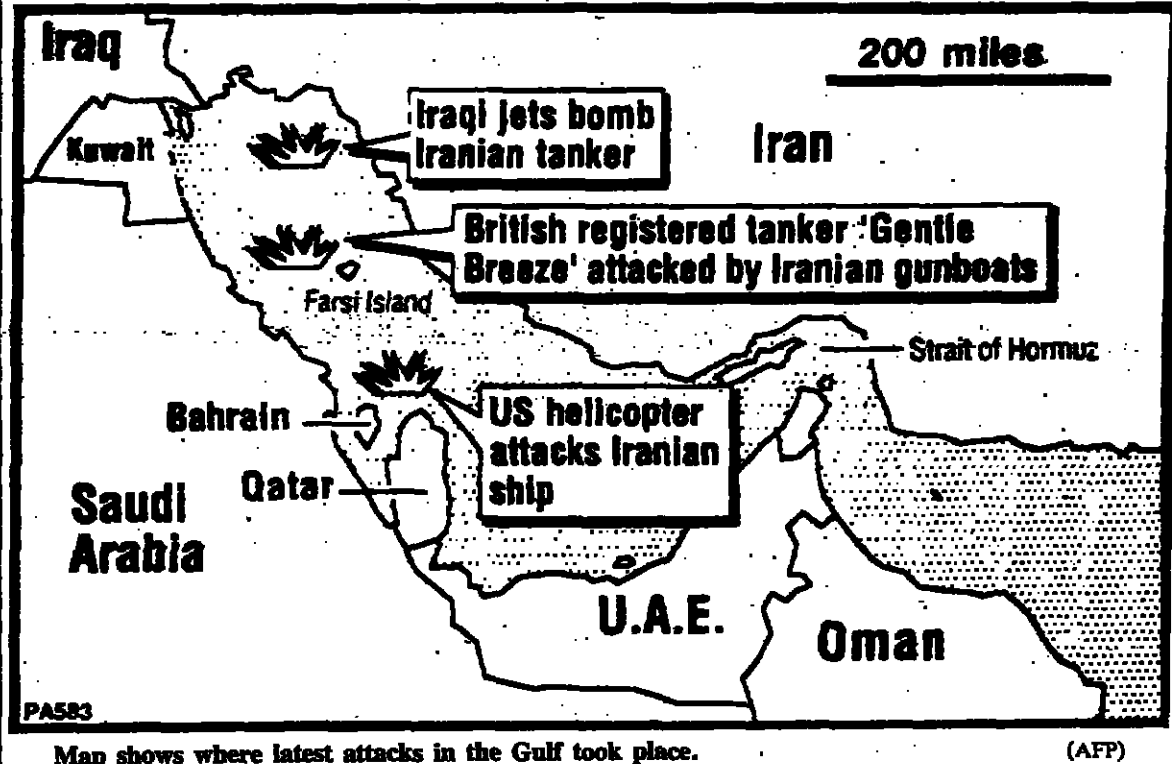
It would be mistaken, however, to blame the Histadrut's heads for abandoning the public sector workers. Kassar and Haberfeld negotiated with a clear idea of their final objectives in mind from the outset. They knew that behind Finance Minister Moshe Nisim's disarming smile, there was a tough guy who wouldn't cave in to the threat of garbage piling up in the streets on the eve of Rosh Hashana. Following his success in scrapping the Lavi fighter project, Nisim became even more firm in his mind to keep on fighting to maintain the economic stabilization programme.

That economic stability will prove to be the unseen benefit from which the public sector employees, like all other workers, will profit. The public sector wage agreement that will, in all likelihood, finally be signed today, is an augury of continued stability and will enable the government to postpone the devaluation that it has in mind.

One matter that should have been corrected a long time ago, that has now been agreed, is for the public service pensioners to get a raise of almost 27 per cent. Their pensions had been eroded for years because they didn't have the extortionist power to bring any essential service to a halt. The highest earners have already benefited from lower income tax rates since the April tax reform and now the lower income earners will receive a benefit tailored to their needs. The Treasury is hoping that now every one will be happy.

In conducting the negotiations, the Histadrut had to take care not only of the employees it represents but also see to the interests of its economic establishment. The sit-

FINE PRINT
SHLOMO MAOZ
Wage pact under fire - page 19



Herut bid to stifle Amirav row

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Post Political Reporter

The Herut Party yesterday tried to stifle the controversy surrounding Central Committee member Moshe Amirav's talks with PLO backers by quashing a motion by MK Meir Cohen-Avidov to expel Amirav from the party.

Leftwing activists who had mediated in the talks and one of the Palestinians involved tried to do just the opposite, presenting in a press conference in Jerusalem what they described as "proof" that Prime Minister Shamir and other Herut leaders had been fully aware of the talks.

At a meeting of the Herut Secretariat in Tel Aviv, participants railed against "distortion and exaggeration" in the Amirav affair. Chairman Moshe Arens said that the publicity surrounding the affair was a "deliberate attempt to besmirch Herut."

The secretariat published a statement ruling out any form of contact with the PLO. At the same time, Cohen-Avidov was persuaded to retract his demand for Amirav's expulsion. He was told that such a move was inappropriate and would only fan the flames of the controversy.

Amirav's actions will be taken up by Herut's legal adviser, and one or more Herut members are expected to demand Amirav's expulsion in the party tribunal in the next few weeks. Amirav said last night that he was "proud of his movement which has proved that it is democratic and pluralistic."

While the Likud continued to vehemently deny any knowledge of Amirav's moves, MK Charlie Biton (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality), peace activist David Ish-Shalom and Salah Zuhikah, editor of the East Jerusalem daily *Ash-Shaab*, contended that the Likud had been in the know. Biton, a university professor, Sari Nussibeh, who is convalescing following the attack on him by university students Monday, did not participate in yesterday's press conference.

The leftists distributed two documents. The first, in Hebrew and purportedly submitted by Amirav, called for the establishment of a Palestinian state and stated that "the sole official representative of the Palestinian people is the PLO." The other, a memorandum of understanding between Amirav and Faisal Hussein, the now-detained director of the Society for Arab Studies in East Jerusalem, stated that "any attempt at reaching a settlement that excludes the Likud party of the PLO is bound to fail." The document details an "interim settlement" that includes the "establishment of a Palestinian entity, with an administrative capital in the Arab parts of Jerusalem."

The three said that Amirav had reported on his contacts to Herut Ministers Moshe Arens and Moshe Katav, to MKs Dan Meridor and Ehud Olmert and to Benjamin Begin, son of former premier Menachem Begin. They said that the Amirav-Hussein memorandum had been transmitted to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arafat, they said, presented the memorandum to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, who discussed the matter with Shamir on his recent visit to Bucharest. "Amirav constantly acted out of total obedience and loyalty to Yitzhak Shamir," Ish-Shalom said.

Pressed by reporters, Ish-Shalom admitted that the "proof" of Likud involvement was "only circumstantial."

Amirav told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the Hebrew document carrying his signature was a forgery and had actually been prepared by Ish-Shalom himself.

He said that the memorandum with Hussein did include some elements of what had been agreed on at the talks, but that Ish-Shalom had added some of his own ideas to the

(Continued on Page 16)

Americans again fire at Iranian craft

U.S. to call for UN arms embargo on Iran

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. has begun drafting a United Nations resolution that would impose an arms embargo on Iran as the belligerent in the Gulf War, Secretary of State George Shultz said yesterday.

He told a news conference that Washington had intensified consultations with the Security Council members on the issue in the aftermath of Monday's incident in which the U.S. Navy attacked an Iranian ship which the Americans say was laying mines in the Gulf.

Hostilities continued as the U.S. fired warning shots at a second Iranian ship in the Gulf yesterday when it approached the American Navy frigate towing the Iranian vessel captured the day before.

The Pentagon said the U.S. frigate Jarrett, which had the stricken Iranian boat under tow, fired near an Iranian military hovercraft when it came within one mile. It said the hovercraft turned away.

President Ronald Reagan yesterday defended the U.S. attack on the Iranian ship, saying that "we did what was authorized by law."

Reagan denied yesterday that the U.S. had entered a shooting war and said he did not intend to notify Congress of imminent dangers under the War Powers Act. Reagan made his comments during an Oval Office photo session with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias. (Related story - page 3.)

Two of Iran's top military commanders warned yesterday that their forces would retaliate for the U.S. helicopter attack.

The head of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps was quoted by state-run Teheran Radio as saying the attack on the Iran AJR on Monday night was the prelude to a U.S. war with Iran.

Iran's navy commander, Rear Admiral Mohammad-Hussein Malekzadeh, was quoted by the Iranian news agency Irna as saying the navy would retaliate for the U.S. attack.

Defending the attack yesterday, Reagan said that "We did what was authorized by law in international waters."

Asked if his policy of policing the Gulf shipping lanes had made the area more explosive, Reagan said, "the only one who has contributed to the explosive tendencies in the Persian Gulf is (Ayatollah) Khomeini."

(Continued on Page 16)

U.S. hopes Iran will retreat

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. is determined to maintain its tough posture against Iran in order to protect shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, administration officials said yesterday.

They promised that the U.S. military would continue to defend the international shipping lanes by striking against any Iranian ship laying mines in the waterway.

Senior U.S. officials are hoping that Monday's incident, during which a U.S. military helicopter attacked an Iranian naval vessel, will not lead to other clashes with the Iranians. They hope the Iranians will back away from their overall policy of planting mines in the international waterway.

At the Pentagon, for example, there was an almost jubilant mood over the incident.

But there was still serious concern in Washington that the Iranians would retaliate against U.S. and other shipping in the Gulf. American officials feared that an escalated confrontation could lead to more U.S. casualties and damage to U.S. ships.

Some U.S. specialists on Iran suggested that the fiery Iranian rhetoric against the United States was designed largely for domestic Iranian audiences and should not be taken all that seriously.

"They are livid but very scared of the United States," one American expert said, predicting that the Iranians would back down in the face of the firm U.S. posture. "They will back away from a confrontation."

But he added that the Iranians, afraid of losing face, could not themselves back away from their policies.

(Continued on Page 16)

Terrorist hunt scaled down

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The search for three terrorists who broke out of a top security jail on Monday was scaled down yesterday after evidence suggested that the three men may have escaped to Egypt.

Following a report that three men had arrived at the border near Mount Harif in a Volvo and had crossed into Egypt, a search party arrived at the scene and found the abandoned car which had been stolen in Beersheba.

But till last night hundreds of police, troops and IDF Beduin trackers scoured the Negev for the terrorists.

Earlier in the day, people living in southern settlements were warned to check unused buildings where the three, two of whom are serving life sentences for murder, might be hiding out. In Mitze Ramon, about 10 kilometres from the Nafsa prison where the escape took place, troops carried out house-to-house searches.

The soldiers, accompanied by sniffer dogs, forced their way into empty apartments, sometimes entering and leaving by the windows because the front doors were locked. Police said they would step up patrols in the area until the terrorists are found. Local civil guard units were also placed on special alert.

Deputy Police Commander Haim Ben Ayoun said the fact that the men all belonged to the PLO was

(Continued on Page 16)



Chef Lorraine puts the finishing touches to a Rosh Hashana cake as the Hilton Hotel in Jerusalem, in common with the rest of the country, gears up for the new year holiday. (Related reports - page 2.) (Media)

Report says parties dipped into millions of Agency funds

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israeli political parties over the years have diverted millions of dollars in Jewish Agency funds which were supposed to have gone for cultural and welfare activities to partisan purposes, according to an unpublished report by the agency comptroller obtained by *The Jerusalem Post*.

The report, which was recently submitted to the agency board of governors, deals with the so-called constructive funds. In recent years, these funds have allocated \$2.7 million a year to institutions recommended by political parties, ostensibly for cultural and welfare purposes.

The comptroller found that a large part of this money in recent years has ended up in the wrong hands. According to the rules laid down for the constructive funds in 1976, no money was supposed to go to institutions directly affiliated with a political body or to be used for political purposes.

These rules were adopted following many years of complaints by overseas donors that constructive fund allocations were being used for political purposes. The constructive funds themselves were set up decades ago to compensate political parties for agreeing to give up separate fund-raising campaigns abroad. But all the parties now benefiting from the funds have since resumed these campaigns.

The comptroller also noted that most of the funds' beneficiaries had filed reports with the agency treasury, which had failed to act on the blatant misuse of the allocations. In most of the cases reviewed by the comptroller, it was found that the ties between the beneficiaries and the parties were quite close. In other cases, the beneficiaries transferred the money to individuals or institutions which were not supposed to get them.

For example, the report examined the KEI fund, controlled by the National Religious Party. This fund gave part of its allocation to the Council for Rabbis and Tora Scholars, which in turn passed the money on to other institutions and individuals without proper authorization.

The comptroller also checked out the Ofek constructive fund, which is closely connected to the Liberal Party and its affiliate, the General Zionists. The examination revealed that some of the money went to pay rent for Liberal Party branches around the country and for General Zionist programmes related to the World Zionist Organization.

The allocations for Herut went through the Tel Hai Fund, which passed them on to the world Betar youth movement and to Betar sports clubs.

The report found many instances where beneficiaries of constructive funds also received money from other Jewish Agency sources and from the WZO, with no coordination between them.

The funds for 1984/85 and 1985/86 were allocated to institutions controlled by or close to the following Zionist parties: National Religious Party, \$1 million; Confederation of United Zionists, \$446,000; Liberals/General Zionists, \$459,000; Herut, \$189,000; Labour Zionist Movement, \$280,000; and Mapam, \$42,000.

Constructive fund allocations have also been made for years to institutions connected to the non-Zionist parties of Agudat Yisrael (\$140,000) and Poalei Agudat Yisrael (\$160,000).

The irregularities led the comptroller to recommend that some of the allocations for the NRP, the Confederation of United Zionists, the Liberal Party, Herut, Poalei Aguda and Labour should be reconsidered.

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BRUSSELS	18	14	22	Clear
BIRMINGHAM	18	14	22	Clear
CHICAGO	18	14	22	Clear
COPENHAGEN	18	14	22	Clear
FRANKFURT	18	14	22	Clear
GENEVA	18	14	22	Clear
HELSINKI	18	14	22	Clear
LONDON	18	14	22	Clear
MADRID	18	14	22	Clear
MONTREAL	18	14	22	Clear
NEW YORK	18	14	22	Clear
OSLO	18	14	22	Clear
PARIS	18	14	22	Clear
RUDELSBURG	18	14	22	Clear
SAPPAULI	18	14	22	Clear
STOCKHOLM	18	14	22	Clear
TORONTO	18	14	22	Clear
ZURICH	18	14	22	Clear

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair	Yesterday's	Today's	24-hour
Jerusalem	46	17-27	26
Golan	34	16-29	28
Nahariya	63	23-30	29
Safed	67	18-27	26
Haifa Port	67	23-30	29
Thessalon	40	19-34	27
Nazareth	33	18-28	24
Afula	44	18-29	28
Samarit	47	19-29	28
Tel Aviv	61	22-29	29
B-G Airport	54	20-29	29
Jericho	40	21-35	34
Gaza	64	21-29	28
Beersheba	42	17-32	31
Eilat	26	23-36	36

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Fink's Restaurant will be closed for the annual staff vacation from September 23 to October 16.

ARRIVALS

Mr. Alfred Schoon, Chairman of the Board of the Gesher Foundation, and Mrs. Carol Schoon, member of the board, to participate in the first Jerusalem Gesher Seminar, to be held next week.

Police ask guidelines on meetings with PLO

By ANDY COURT
The police have had difficulty investigating Israelis who have met with PLO representatives abroad and have asked the attorney general for guidelines on how to conduct such investigations in the future. Police Inspector-General David Kraus said yesterday.

"There's no government body that is prepared to tell us that these meetings were made without authorization," Kraus said during a meeting with police reporters in Jerusalem. Nor has any government body defined exactly who Israelis can and cannot meet, he said.

In a letter sent recently to the attorney general, Kraus explained the problems the police have encountered during such investigations. The police procedure until now has been to summon Israelis who have met with PLO figures for investigations, but the Israelis generally claim their right to remain silent, he said.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Sound of the shofar to be heard throughout the land

Jerusalem Post Staff
Israelis begin an extended New Year holiday this evening, after spending the first half of the week preparing for the break by working overtime in shops and markets.

During the holiday, the nation will comport itself according to the habits and inclinations of its component groups. Religious and traditional people of all backgrounds will spend a good part of the two-day holiday in synagogues, some of them improvised, following the extra-long prayers for Rosh Hashana whose climax is the blowing of the shofar, or ram's horn.

Because of the need to utilize the limited available synagogue space to the maximum, and because of the different customs and tastes of communities and individuals regarding prayer hours, the sound of the shofar will reverberate from early morning to the early afternoon hours.

In the late afternoon tomorrow, the streets will again be full as people make their way to the traditional *tashlich* service, wherein they symbolically cast off the sins of the old year into water.

Secular Israelis will be taking advantage of the unusually long holiday weekend by vacationing in record numbers in resorts around the country. Hoteliers in Eilat and in vacation centres on the Mediterranean coast and Lake Kinneret reported bookings of 90-100 per cent. Vacationers were promised a non-stop programme of activities for adults and children alike.

The country's commercial sector will be in need of a few days rest after the traditional pre-holiday buying spree, which turned into a frenzy in the final days.

Prices of fruit and vegetables, in particular, soared during the past week.

The widespread custom of sending gifts, both between families and friends and from employers to employees or suppliers to customers, ensured that florists, toy-makers, confectioners and many others benefitted from the consumer's munificence.

Herzog: It's time to draft a constitution

Jerusalem Post Staff
President Chaim Herzog last night called for a renewed attempt to draft a constitution.

Appearing on Israel Television's customary Rosh Hashana address, the president said he believed "it was time to conduct a thorough, apolitical national debate" about the constitution. It should be "based on a new national consensus" reflecting domestic realities as Israel approaches its 40th anniversary.

Alluding to some of the year's events, he criticised the norm of striking workers who conduct their struggles "at the public's expense, turning their anger at the ordinary citizen." In an apparent reference to relations among the Jewish groups and between Jews and Arabs in Israel, he called for tolerance, respect and justice among citizens.

The president especially criticised the "shivyon nefesh" (indifference) towards traffic accidents. Some 16,000 people were injured since January this year and 350 of them were killed, he said. "Why should we be so indifferent, it is just because the enemy is not external but internal - negligence, arrogance, intolerance and inefficiency?" Herzog asked.



Boaz Yitzhaki (Rahamin Israeli)

Slihot worshipper foils early morning 'inferno'

By ANDY COURT
When Boaz Yitzhaki left his apartment building yesterday morning at 4 a.m. to say *slihot* prayers, he discovered that the parking lot outside had been turned into one large, already-ignited fire trap.

Roughly 30 cars in the parking lot at 39 Mahal St. in Jerusalem's Ma'at Dafna neighborhood, had been doused with fuel. Rags soaked in kerosene, were placed on the cars, and jerrycans filled with fuel placed around them.

Jerusalem police said that they are investigating the incident "in all directions" and have not yet determined whether the incident was a terrorist attack.

"Apparently I came at the moment that it had been set on fire," Yitzhaki said yesterday. "I saw a strong light coming from underneath of the automobiles. I went closer to the car and saw a plastic jerrycan under the auto. Then I saw jerrycans around all the cars in the parking lot. Everything was new - the cans, the rags."

The fire was not yet so big that it was uncontrollable. Reaching under the car with his feet, Yitzhaki was able to pull out the flaming jerrycan and smother the fire with his shoes. He then searched for the person who had set the fire, but had little success.

Yitzhaki, the 27-year-old owner of a Jerusalem discount store, believes that terrorists had to be behind it. If all the cars and gas cans had indeed ignited, the 8-story apartment building nearby may very well have caught fire, he said. There are about 48 apartments in the building, and most of the residents were no doubt sleeping at the time.

Suissa says no terrorist escaped during his term

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Former prisons commissioner Rafi Suissa says the public will vindicate his "liberal" approach to treatment of prisoners as Suissa's hard-line successor, David Maimon, struggles to cope with his second big terrorist jailbreak in only six months.

"I don't want to spill someone else's blood as my blood was spilled," Suissa said yesterday in an interview. "But it's true that during my tenure no terrorist escaped. Period."

Suissa resigned as commissioner in September, 1986, under fire for administrative improprieties, including granting leave and family visits to ineligible prisoners. During his 18-month term, Suissa was heavily criticized for lenient policies on work and home leaves that led to an overall increase in prison escapes.

But the increased jailbreaks during Suissa's term involved small-time criminals who walked away from minimum security facilities.

In contrast, nine terrorists serving heavy sentences for murder and bombings have escaped under Maimon's nine-month tenure and only one has been recaptured.

"If I sent 1,400 prisoners home for a holiday and five didn't return was that such a catastrophe?" said Suissa. "I'm not happy when sorrows befall somebody else. But when people in the street and my friends see what is happening now, and what happened in my time and how I badly I was attacked, they make a comparison."

"In my time no criminal escaped by a planned route. Either people didn't return from a home leave, or they fled from an open jail," Suissa said. "Fourteen escaped prisoners even came to my house. They surrendered themselves. It's like children that have gone astray. What are you supposed to do?"

Suissa recalled that he was publicly raked over the coals for the December, 1985 escape of convicted murderer and kidnapper Zvi Gur, the most spectacular jailbreak of Suissa's tenure.

But Gur escaped as he was working unguarded outside of Ramle's Ayalon Prison walls, Suissa pointed out. He was recaptured two months later.

"He didn't escape. He just walked away," Suissa said. In Gaza prison, where six other

(Continued on Page 16)

It's Rosh Hashana in hospital for over 1,000 hurt on roads

By JONATHAN KARP

TEL AVIV. - As families reunite at home for the coming holiday period, more than 1,000 people injured in road accidents will spend Rosh Hashana in hospital, a Health Ministry official said yesterday.

While refusing to make predictions, police cautioned that that number could grow significantly if drivers are not vigilant on what are expected to be highly congested roads over the next four days.

Health Ministry spokesman Shmuel Algrabi noted that the actual number of those presently hospitalized as a result of road accident injuries may exceed his estimate. "There is movement all the time, but I am sure that at least 1,000 people who are being treated in every stage, from the emergency room to orthopedic rehabilitation, will remain in hospital over Rosh Hashana," he said.

Both the number of accidents and the death toll have declined this week, but the carnage at summer's end has prompted the police to pay more attention to the roads than in previous holiday periods.

Danny Liron, adviser to the head of the Israel Police's Traffic Department, yesterday said that hundreds of officers and civil guard volunteers are to be deployed on the country's roads. Tonight and Saturday night, when traffic will be heaviest, forces will be double their normal size in some areas, he said.

The police also plan to use four planes and helicopters, as opposed to two last year, to patrol overhead. Liron said that the aircraft would not be used for enforcement, but rather to advise officers on the ground and drivers, via radio stations, about congestion and to suggest alternate routes.

Of particular concern, Liron said, are the roads leading to resort spots such as the Sea of Galilee, in the north, and the Dead Sea and Eilat, in the south. As vacationers return on Saturday night, however, the focus will shift to the central part of the country.

"We are expecting very strong pressure around Tel Aviv, especially along Geha Road," he said. "So, at every major junction with a traffic light between Hadera and Lod, there will be an officer to try to keep everyone moving."

Given the expected volume of vehicles, traffic jams appear to be inevitable, and Liron appealed to the public to ease the pressure by starting their return trip earlier on Saturday. Once on the road, he added, drivers should have patience and heed police recommendations about alternate routes.

Magen David Adom yesterday called on drivers to be especially alert during Rosh Hashana. Spokesman Moshe Dayan said that MDA had carried out its annual pre-holiday nationwide inspection of about 700 ambulances, including more than 250 used by kibbutzim, moshavim and local or regional councils. Lists of "hazard" volunteers have also been posted in all MDA stations.

Dayan said that the long four-day weekend would place a strain on the country's blood reserves, which are already reduced as a result of the recent spate of road accidents. MDA plans to operate its mobile blood canteens today until noon and on Saturday night to encourage people to give blood.

Bin-Nun assumes Air Force command

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Aluf Avihu Bin-Nun, who played a major role in reducing IDF units, including the number of fighter aircraft, and in spearheading the attack on the multi-billion dollar Lavi, yesterday assumed command of the Air Force. In doing so he relieved Aluf Amos Lapidot.

Bin-Nun's recent record appeared to be in the back of Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's mind when he handed over the papers confirming the new command. "Achtung hochst et zeh," the minister told Bin-Nun, using the slang which roughly translates as "now you'll have to live with it."

Bin-Nun's record includes some 500 operational sorties in the 30 years he served as a combat pilot. He shot down four enemy aircraft, including a Soviet flown MiG in the Suez Canal zone during the War of Attrition.

"However it was his last position as head of the IDF's Planning Branch which put him in the limelight as one of the Lavi's harshest critics and the officer responsible for much of the work behind the IDF's alternative 'shopping list'."

After receiving the new appointment at the Kirya here, Bin-Nun and Lapidot travelled to the Hazer

Air Force base for a parade and a past by eight jets.

Speaking to reporters after the ceremony he said he believed today's cadets are better than those of 30 years ago. Technically they are required to do more - and do so. However their values aren't as deep as their predecessors. Some with question the justice of Israel's actions but when pilots are sent to bomb terrorist headquarters in Lebanon, the Air Force checks time and time again to ascertain it is bombing an enemy target and not a refugee camp. The pilots are then told so.

Lapidot, who has been in the army for 34 years, said he was not sure what he will do next.

After receiving the new appointment at the Kirya here, Bin-Nun and Lapidot travelled to the Hazer

rooms and removed possessions. Ateret Cohanim's administrator, however, claimed that the rooms had been bought from Arabs and that the complaints were designed to cover up the fact that the property had been sold to Jews.

Police and Border Police who arrived at some reportedly told the Arab residents to file formal complaints. But Jerusalem Police spokesman Rafi Levy said yesterday that no complaint has yet been filed.

Police are not investigating an incident in which yeshiva students in Jerusalem's Old City allegedly broke into the rooms of Arab residents and threw out their furniture because the residents have not filed a formal complaint, the police spokesman said yesterday.

Arabs living near the Ateret Cohanim yeshiva in the Moslem Quarter told reporters on Monday that yeshiva students had entered their

rooms and removed possessions. Ateret Cohanim's administrator, however, claimed that the rooms had been bought from Arabs and that the complaints were designed to cover up the fact that the property had been sold to Jews.

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In deep sorrow, we announce the death in Nice, France, of

GEORGE SAUVE

on Friday, September 18, 1987 (24 Elul 5747).

The funeral will take place on Sunday, September 27, 1987 (4 Tishrei 5747), leaving at 1:00 p.m. from the gate of the new Kfar Sava cemetery.

The Mourners:

Wife: Lucienne

Mother: Sufana

Daughter: Sylvie Abramovitz,

and her husband, Ilan

Son: Claude

Daughter: Edith Zaoul, and her husband

Elie, and the children

The Sauve Family

The Robboh Family

His relations and friends

An Azkara - Memorial Service

for **RAV AVRAHAM MILLER**

The last surviving *talmid* of the Chofetz Chaim,

who died recently in Russia

will take place on

Tuesday, September 29 at 6 p.m.

at the new *beit midrash* of the Shvut Ami Center for Soviet Jews

4 Bellus Street, Jerusalem

Speakers (former students of Rav Miller):

Rabbi Eliyahu Eissas; Rabbi Raphael Antin; Michael Karyanovon

The programme will be conducted in Hebrew.

To Herbert Cohen

We are deeply shocked by the death of

MARCEL YA'ACOV COHEN

in a road accident.

שהמקום ירחם אותו

The D. Hirschfeld Family
The Gurevitch Family

We share the grief of our dear friend

Herbert Cohen

of Holland

of the untimely death in a motor accident of his

beloved son

MARCEL

Deelre and Yossi Carmel

Tel Aviv University

offers sincere condolences to

Herbert Cohen of Holland

Member of the Board of Governors

on the sudden passing of his dear son

MARCEL

The unveiling of the tombstone of

Segen ALEX SINGER

son of Max and Susan Singer of Washington, D.C.

will take place on Sunday, September 27, 1987

(4 Tishrei) at 3 p.m. in the Mt. Herzl

Military Cemetery, Jerusalem.

We shall meet in the entrance plaza.

To the Singer Family

(Washington/Jerusalem)

Our deepest sympathy

Cassia and John

U.S. storms out of UN hall as Iran slams Gulf attack

UNITED NATIONS. — Deputy U.S. Ambassador Herbert Okun stormed out of the UN General Assembly chambers yesterday to protest against what he called "false accusations" against the U.S. by the Iranian president.

"I do not intend to sit passively when our country is insulted, our president pilloried, and the truth trampled," Okun told reporters outside the chamber. He and the five other members of the U.S. delegation left the hall where 159 countries were represented after Iranian President Ali Khamenei criticized the U.S. attack last Monday on an Iranian ship in the Persian Gulf.

"It was the most serious U.S. strike against Iran since the Americans began accompanying Kuwait tankers last month," Khamenei said the ship was a merchant vessel, and not a military ship as the U.S. had asserted. He also denied that the ship had been laying mines.

"The false accusations he made against our country distort the facts and misrepresent our policy totally," Okun said.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. Ambassador to the UN Vernon Walters were not present. Earlier, Okun had said they had other meetings scheduled and their absence should not be interpreted as a snub to Iran.

On Monday, the Iranian delegation boycotted U.S. President Reagan's speech to the world body.

Only the U.S. walked out during Khamenei's speech.

In his address, Khamenei departed from the 29-page prepared text of his speech to the assembly to de-

nounce Monday night's attack. As the U.S. delegation left the chamber, Khamenei said: "The U.S. shall receive a proper response for this abominable act." He did not respond to the Security Council ceasefire resolution as many delegates had hoped he would.

Khamenei, who began his speech with a prayer, said the Security Council was a "paper factory" for issuing useless orders and that it should condemn Iraq for starting the Iran-Iraq war.

Earlier in the day, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar had greeted Khamenei, who was dressed in a black turban and long black robe, as he and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived at the UN. Khamenei, the highest-ranking Iranian to visit the UN since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution, was given a tour of the premises.

The U.S. meanwhile put its diplomatic missions on top alert against possible raids after the American attack on an Iranian ship.

"This is standard operating procedure," said a Washington official who asked not to be identified.

In Bonn yesterday, Stern magazine quoted a Soviet Foreign Ministry official as saying the Soviet Union was prepared to back an arms embargo against Iran and to support an international minesweeping fleet to clear the gulf. Middle East specialist Alexander Ivanov-Golysin was quoted as saying: "If one side in the conflict does not fulfil the UN resolution, we will support all appropriate measures, such as perhaps an embargo on arms." He said Moscow would not back arms sanctions against Iraq.



Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko leave for the Imperial Palace in Tokyo yesterday after Akihito temporarily assumed the duties of his father Emperor Hirohito. (Reuters)

Japan's 'modern' prince steps in for ailing emperor

TOKYO (Reuters). — The heir to Japan's chrysanthemum throne, Crown Prince Akihito, wants the centuries-old traditions of the imperial family which he now heads to evolve with the times.

Yesterday, he temporarily assumed the state ceremonial duties of his father, Emperor Hirohito, 86, who entered hospital for surgery.

The 54-year-old Akihito broke imperial precedent when he became the first Japanese heir-apparent to marry a commoner, and he has encouraged his three children to live like normal Japanese.

After Japan's defeat in World War II, his father renounced the imperial family's claim of divine status, reducing the emperor to the role of symbol of the state and the unity of the Japanese people.

The crown prince, who often represents his father at official functions, has already put his own stamp on the image of the imperial family.

"Centuries-old traditions of the

imperial family must be altered to meet social changes," he once said.

Akihito embodies Japan's national aspirations of the 1980s — to internationalize, and find a way of blending its ancient traditions and values with its modern role as a world leader.

He has begun to raise the "chrysanthemum curtain" which hitherto shrouded the imperial family and has sought to demonstrate a common touch to the Japanese people.

Last year, his family stopped for the first time at a red traffic light and took their first ride on a commuter train, albeit in a carriage that was empty of all other passengers.

He sent his eldest son, Prince Hiro, to Britain in 1983 to study at Oxford, the first heir to the throne of Japan ever to attend school abroad.

He has acted as regent on two previous occasions, once in 1971 when Hirohito toured Europe, the first trip overseas by a Japanese emperor.

U.S., USSR agree not to bar S. Africa from atomic agency

VIENNA (Reuters). — A Nigerian-led bid to suspend South Africa from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is expected to fail following talks between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington said yesterday. "The Soviet Union and the U.S. have found a common ground for the South African problem and they (Pretoria) will not be expelled," Herrington told reporters.

Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwan Lukman accused South Africa at the IAEA's annual general conference on Monday of testing nuclear weapons devices and called for the country's suspension from the agency. But South African President P.W. Botha later announced in South Af-

rica that his government hoped to sign the UN non-proliferation treaty, which limits the spread of nuclear weapons.

Herrington, welcoming the South African offer at a news conference earlier yesterday said: "It's good progress ... I fully expect them to carry through on it." The U.S. official declined to give details of talks he held yesterday with Soviet delegation head Andronik Petrosyants.

But one source acquainted with the U.S. position said: "It is very clear that it is not in the Soviet's interest to have South Africa expelled." The Soviet side believed that "it is better to have them inside the organization than outside."

The vote is due to be held on Friday and East Bloc states may abstain, delegates said. Delegates said they had expected a close vote on the motion, which needs a two-thirds majority to be carried.

"But when you lose the Soviet Union, it's not even close any more," said one delegate.

Western states oppose the suspension move, saying that apartheid lies at its roots and, while they condemn South Africa's race policies, the issue should be discussed at other forums.

"Apartheid is not a legitimate issue for the IAEA. This is a safety organization," one Western delegate said.

Le Pen blames Soviets for Nazi gas chambers

PARIS (Reuters). — French National Front leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, undaunted by critics accusing him of anti-Semitic remarks, has blamed the Soviet Union for Nazi gas chambers in a televised debate.

Monday night's televised "battle of the extremists" between Le Pen and Communist Party presidential candidate Andre Lajoie marked the unofficial start of the campaign on television for next year's presidential elections.

Le Pen, standing for the anti-immigrant National Front, is under fire for describing the Nazi gas chambers

as a minor point of World War Two history — a remark interpreted as casting doubt on the Holocaust.

Politicians of the right and left, as well as human rights groups, have called on the former paratroop lieutenant to retract.

In the debate, Le Pen charged that the Soviet Union was "the bloodiest political failure of the century."

Sweating like a boxer under the television lights, he appeared unmoved when Lajoie accused him before an audience of millions of being a "Nazi apologist."

Le Pen hit back, accusing the Soviet Union of responsibility for the gas chambers because of dictator Josef Stalin's 1939 non-aggression pact with Hitler's Germany.

"That is nothing to do with me," he said when presented with pictures of Holocaust victims. "Stalin has something to do with it, and Hitler too." Commentators gave Le Pen the edge in debating skill over Lajoie, a soft-spoken party functionary who heads the Communist parliamentary group, but panned both men for turning the 90-minute debate into a meaningless exchange of insult and invective.

Husband beheads his wife and her lover

JAKARTA (Reuters). — An eastern Java farmer who caught his wife and her lover in a tryst decapitated them both with a sickle and then brought the heads to his village chief, police said on yesterday.

The 35-year-old farmer, identified as San, calmly tied the heads together with a strip of bamboo and surrendered to the authorities in Probolinggo on Friday, a police spokesman said.

Soviet advisers killed MOSCOW (Reuters). — Two Soviet military advisers, reported missing in Libya, were killed in fighting in the south of the country, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshov said here on Tuesday.

"They were posted there to advise on the use of military equipment," he said. "The Soviet Union has thanked the countries that helped to find out their fate."

France had asked its ally, Chad, to search for the two men, who were reported missing after Chadian forces staged a lightning raid on a Libyan air base on September 5.

Soviets invite international group to probe human rights

VIENNA (Reuters). — The Soviet Union countered Western criticism of its human rights record yesterday by inviting to Moscow an international group set up to monitor alleged violations.

At the resumption of the extended 35-nation conference on security and cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Soviet chief delegate Yuri Kashlev told a news conference the International Helsinki Federation of Human Rights was welcome to send a delegation.

The announcement came shortly after a British minister had criticized the Soviet Union's human rights record, calling the present level of emigration "paltry."

David Mellor, a junior foreign office minister, said there had been some positive movement in Eastern Europe, "but frankly, I have the impression of a swimmer who has only put his foot in the water." The decision to allow the human rights federation to visit Moscow surprised the Stockholm-based group, which

had made clear when requesting a visit last June that it would insist on meeting dissidents.

The group was founded in 1982 by national human rights monitoring committees created under the original 1975 Helsinki European security conference.

"We were surprised, but we think it is a very positive step," the federation's executive director, Gerald Nagler, told reporters. Nagler said a 12-member delegation representing several countries, including former cabinet ministers and a Nobel Prize-winner, would meet officials from the justice, interior and foreign ministries, the state prosecutor's office and the academy of sciences during their five-day stay.

In his speech Mellor said figures announced by Kashlev yesterday that 20,000 people had emigrated from the Soviet Union so far this year were "higher than previous years, but 'viewed against the demand, and the record of the 1970s, they are still paltry'."

New attacks on Bork nomination

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Robert Bork's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court came under new attacks from black leaders as testimony from outside witnesses began at his confirmation hearing.

Black leaders Andrew Young, the mayor of Atlanta, and former transport secretary William Coleman both said on Monday that Bork might reverse progress made in civil rights over the past three decades if he became a member of the court.

The American Bar Association (ABA) also said on Monday that four of 15 members of its committee that reviews Supreme Court nominations found Bork unqualified because of "concerns about his commitment to civil rights. It was the first time the influential committee

has not unanimously endorsed a Supreme Court nominee since 1969."

ABA committee chairman Harold Tyler told the Senate committee that 10 members of the panel gave Bork their highest recommendation of well qualified, while one member voted not opposed to the nomination.

South Carolina Republican Senator Strom Thurmond, who supports Bork, said the objections were based on ideology, not on legal qualifications, in violation of ABA guidelines.

Bork, a 60-year-old, conservative U.S. appeals court judge, finished five days of testimony before the committee on Saturday, telling senators he favoured judicial restraint but supports civil rights for women and minorities.

Titanic treasures unveiled

PARIS (AP). — Treasure hidden for 75 years on the sea floor beside the wreck of the Titanic was shown briefly in public for the first time yesterday, including a pair of delicate, gold spectacles in a leather case still bearing an optician's name.

Also part of the treasure, but not among the five pieces displayed is a bag of loose rough-cut diamonds, an official involved in the salvage expedition said.

About 100 reporters gathered at the archaeological conservation laboratory that will be treating the Titanic artifacts to watch the opening of a bright orange cargo container which arrived in a Brittany port on Saturday bearing 800 items brought back from the deep-sea expedition.

Donning thin rubber gloves, Jacques Montholon, a spokesman for

the Electricite de France laboratory, located in the Paris suburb of St. Denis, took five items, one by one, from a red plastic container filled with water.

The objects are stored in fresh water to protect them from oxygen damage. He held them up to the photographers' flashes and the lights of television crews.

The first item was a hand-blown whiskey bottle, pale green in colour and filled with murky water. Except for a hairline crack on one side, it was in good condition. Like all the objects, the bottle was wrapped in wet, protective cloth.

"Oh my," Montholon said, seeing for the first time a pair of dainty, gold spectacles, lenses and wire rims still intact, sparkling under the camera lights.

Kremlin says Gorbachev is well

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who has not appeared in public since August 7, is on holiday and is in excellent health, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

Interest in Gorbachev's whereabouts mounted after he failed to attend Red Square celebrations on Saturday marking the 840th anniversary of the founding of Moscow. Although protocol did not require Gorbachev to attend the celebrations, since coming to office in March 1985 he has regularly attended major public ceremonies.

Boris Pyadyshov, of the Foreign Ministry's information directorate, told a news briefing: "The General Secretary is on vacation and the

holidays will last as long as previously envisaged. We have no practice of announcing in advance the date of return." Asked if he was denying speculation in some Western media that Gorbachev was ill, Pyadyshov replied: "Once again, I would like to repeat that he is on vacation and is in excellent health."

In contrast to last year, when the official news agency Tass reported Gorbachev's departure on holiday in mid-August, the Soviet press failed this summer to say when the Kremlin chief had gone on holiday. But the official media have continued to issue statements in Gorbachev's name, including remarks on arms control and other issues carried by the party newspaper Pravda on Friday.

MITZPE NEVO — MA'ALE ADUMIM National Religious Quarter

Third construction stage has begun — join the two hundred families there.

You too should join the two hundred families already living in the national-religious neighbourhood of Mitzpe Nevo which, from its high vantage point, looks out toward Jerusalem from atop a lovely hill, adjoining Ma'ale Adumim. The breathtaking landscape of the capital is in full view, while the Judean Hills lie spread out in all their beauty below. The second development stage is now completed, and the third stage is about to begin.

"Beautiful Israel" is no mere slogan in this tiny bit of paradise.

Shana Tova!

Mitzpe Nevo already boasts kindergartens and a Hesder yeshiva, while a synagogue and new shopping centre are under construction. You can choose from: 3-3½ room row homes. 3½-4½ room terraced cottages. For details please call our offices in Jerusalem, 02-248113, 02-227418, or Tel Aviv, 03-265294.



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The public is invited to the dedication of a

STUDY HALL

in memory of
Doctor Honoris Causa

RENA MALKA ZIMAND ר'נ"ז

at the Rav Maimon Central Library of Judaica
Mosad Harav Kook — Harav Maimon Street, Jerusalem,
on Monday, September 28, 1987, at 4:30 p.m.

Yad Harav Maimon

A bus will be available from Tel Aviv for those invited, leaving at 3:30 p.m. from the Northern Railway Station, Rehov Arlosoroff.

RAMOT SHAPIRA WORLD YOUTH CENTER

and
The Judith Lieberman Institute for Women

extend best wishes to friends and supporters
for a

KTIVA V'CHATIMA TOVA

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Sixteenth Anniversary Dinner

Guest of Honour

Dr. William A. Wexler

Honorary President of B'nai B'rith International

Host: Mr. Samuel Sebba

at the RAMADA RENAISSANCE HOTEL, Jerusalem

Wednesday evening, September 30, 1987.

Reception 6:00 p.m.

Dinner 6:45 p.m.

For reservations, call 02-668343; evenings: 02-6622240, 222514.

Peres' peace conference endorsed AJC spoke out because gov't 'divided, deadlocked'

By WALTER RUBY

NEW YORK — The American Jewish Congress has become the first major American Jewish organization to endorse Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's call for an international Middle East peace conference.

In a formal policy statement, the AJC's national governing council called for an end to permanent Israeli rule over Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza, although a last-minute change in the language of the statement softened an explicit call for territorial compromise to a call for either a "territorial or functional" solution.

Nevertheless, the AJC statement broke a tradition under which American Jewish organizations have refrained from taking public stances on issues reflecting the security of Israel and the peace process.

The AJC said it was speaking out "because the government of Israel is itself divided and deadlocked over how to approach the peace process." According to the organization, it is therefore "necessary and appropriate" for American Jews to take part "in the current historic debate."

The statement took a swipe at Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the Likud, expressing "regret" that efforts to develop alternatives to the status quo on the West Bank and Gaza "have been severely hampered by those who reject all compromise and seem immutably dedicated to the annexation of the occupied territories, no matter what the risks to a democratic Israel or a viable Jewish state."

According to AJC President Theodore Mann, his group decided to break the American Jewish consensus and take a clear stand on the international peace conference after considering findings by Israeli demographic experts which, Mann said, convinced the AJC that the rise in Arab numbers "is rapidly transforming Greater Israel... into a de facto bi-national state politically and

culturally."

The AJC emphasized that its support for an international conference was predicated on understanding that there had been reached last spring between Peres and King Hussein.

These include a commitment that all non-combatants involved in the international conference, such as the Soviet Union and China would have to recognize Israel; that the purpose of the conference would be to legitimate direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors; and that Israel would be in a position to veto any decisions made by the international conference.

THE AJC CONCEDED that there were "risks" attached to Israeli participation in the international conference, such as the criticism Israel would receive if it decided it had to walk out of the conference. But, the AJC said, such risks are "not security risks and do not outweigh the advantages of participating in the conference... We believe an international conference satisfies in sufficient measure Israel's insistence over the last 35 years that peace can be achieved only through direct, face to face negotiations."

Mann told *The Jerusalem Post* that the AJC "felt compelled to speak out," noting, "For a great Jewish community like ours to be silent, to stand aside and to simply observe such historical events unfolding would be unforgivable. American Jewry must take part in the historic debate, because on its outcome hangs the future of Israel and world Jewry."

Mann stressed that the decision of the AJC to go public with its pro-Peres stand at this time had been taken independently and not in coordination with Peres and his aides. He said that the AJC would urge other organizations to speak out on the issue, but added that it had not acted together with any other organizations.

Asked if he was concerned that

Shamir and other Likud figures might denounce the AJC for pro-Likud partisanship and interference in the Israeli political process, Mann responded, "I hope that won't happen, but we won't let that deter us if it does."

Abe Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which together with the AJC and American Jewish Committee constitute the "big three" American Jewish defense organizations, remarked, "We respect the right of the AJC to do what they did, but we are not ready to substitute ourselves for the Israeli government."

Foxman said it was perfectly legitimate for the AJC to take the stand it did because "We are a pluralistic Jewish community and everyone is free to articulate their beliefs."

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress stressed that the AJC had taken its position as an independent agency and not as one of 32 American Jewish defense organizations.

Steinberg said the AJC decision to take a stand on the international peace conference was "very important" and "places the issue on the table for discussion." He said the WJC governing board will consider the subject when it meets next year.

Menachem Shalev adds: Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last night blasted the AJC's statement on the international conference and the territories, saying that it was a "clear cut violation of the long-held truth" that the Jewish establishment in the U.S. does not intervene in matters which are in dispute here.

Shamir called on American Jewish organizations "not to take this road" and stressed that on political and security matters "only the State of Israel has the right to decide." "U.S. Jews are required to understand this," said Shamir, "and to support our struggle and our efforts."



Sephardi Chief Rabbi Mordechai Elihu visits heart transplant patient Ovadia Matzri yesterday at Hadassah Hospital and wishes him good health for the new year. (Avi Hayon)

Reagan sends holiday greetings to Herzog

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter
U.S. President Reagan has sent New Year greetings to President Chaim Herzog from the people of the U.S. to the people of Israel. Reflecting on the past year, Reagan writes in his message that "we can take satisfaction in the warm friendship and close partnership between Israel and the United States."

The message concludes with wishes for peace, joy and prosperity for the people of Israel and all the world. In a separate message to the Jewish communities in the U.S., Reagan draws attention to the importance of the *shofar* — the ram's horn — in Jewish history and tradition, noting that it was sounded on Mount Sinai as Moses ascended to receive the Ten Commandments "which are the moral foundation stones of Western civilization."

Reagan expresses the hope that "the great values upon which Judaism is based will be more fully reflected in all of our lives." In this context he invokes biblical prophecy, offering the prayer that "we will move closer to the day when nation will not lift up sword against nation and neither shall we learn war any more."

President Herzog also received New Year greetings from Richard von Weizsäcker, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, who called for progress in the new year towards a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict. The West German president cited the landmark in relations between Israel and Germany marked by Herzog's visit to Germany earlier this year. He stated his firm conviction that "our two peoples will continue along the road of cooperation and understanding."

U.S. Jewry: Depoliticize 'Who is a Jew' issue

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The leaders of over 200 North American Jewish community federations have called on Israeli party leaders to take the "Who is a Jew" issue "off the political agenda."

The national board of the Council of Jewish Federations, which met last week in New York, passed a resolution saying that the "Who is a Jew" issue, "with its ideological, moral and communal implications, should not be decided in the context of political accommodation or of insuring the maintenance or downfall of a particular government."

According to Stephen Donshik, director of the CJF Israel office, the resolution is an outgrowth of discussions held in Israel in July by a delegation of North American Jewish leaders, headed by CJF president Shoshana Cardin. At that time the religious parties failed to pass an amendment to the Law of Return declaring that only conversions "according to Halacha" would be recognized. By implication, this would have denied the legitimacy of conversions to Judaism performed abroad by non-Orthodox rabbis.

Donshik said that Likud MK Sara Doron, one of the few members of her party to oppose the amendment in the July vote, spoke at the New York board meeting. She said that this issue should not be decided in the Knesset.

The resolution also urged the North American supporters of Israeli parties to call on these parties to pledge that the "Who is a Jew" issue should not be decided by a "political approach." This is understood to be a reference to North American Jews who contribute funds to Israeli parties, which carries with it the implication that these donations could be reduced if the parties failed to heed the donors' pleas.

North American federations raise some \$350 million for Israel each year, together with the United Jewish Appeal. Donshik said that the CJF did not want to link the "Who is a Jew" issue with community fundraising for Israel.

He said that since 1982 the CJF has opposed any change in the Law of Return. But he added that this position should not be interpreted as an endorsement of any particular religious position related to the issue.

Police: Expose 'frightening truth' about drug addiction

By BERNARD JOSEPHS

Police believe 15,000 people in this country are addicted to drugs and up to 200,000 use... Commissioner David Kraus says yesterday. He reported this all, despite the force's all-out campaign to smash the narcotics trade, were signs that the number of users was increasing.

Kraus, speaking at a meeting with Education Minister Yitzhak Navon to plan a campaign to fight drug abuse in schools, said that so far this year narcotics officers have confiscated six tons of hashish, 24 kilos of heroin and a kilo of cocaine.

He called for a major effort to tell people the "frightening truth"

about drug addiction and to stress the fact that drug users are also in danger of contracting Aids.

Kraus and Navon, meeting at National Police Headquarters in Jerusalem, decided to set up a special team to spread anti-drug information in the classroom. It would comprise senior Education Ministry staff and police officials and its aim would be to make education about the drugs peril a part of the teaching programme in every school.

Navon said that his ministry also hoped to reach thousands of youngsters who neither work nor go to school and who are seen as prime targets for drug pushers.

Warm response in Yugoslavia for Habimah Theatre

BELGRADE (Reuters). — The Habimah National Theatre company, in the first Yugoslav performance by Israeli artists, got a warm response from the audience at an international drama festival here.

Festival art director Jovan Cirilov told Reuters that tickets for Sunday's performance of Isaac Babel's play *Twilight* by the Tel Aviv theatre group had been sold out well in advance. Habimah also performed Franz Kafka's *The Trial*.

There have been signs recently of a thaw in relations between Israel and Yugoslavia, which broke off diplomatic ties after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview with the Yugoslav weekly *Danas* last week that he saw no reason why diplomatic ties should not be restored.

The official Tanjug news agency, which recently opened an office in Tel Aviv, said last week that about 28,000 Israeli tourists visited Yugoslavia last year.

Trade between the two countries amounted to about \$60 million in 1986.

Navon to request special budget for Arab education

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

SHFARAM. — Education Minister Yitzhak Navon will press the government for a special budget of nearly NIS 90 m. to tackle serious pedagogic problems in Israeli Arab schools, sources in the ministry told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The money is needed to replace, over a five-year period, rundown and rented classrooms in which thousands of Arab schoolchildren are forced to study.

A building programme has already been submitted to Navon by a joint committee comprised of ministry officials and heads of Arab local councils.

Arab leaders organized a one-day strike at the start of the new school year to protest against the poor conditions and inadequate facilities in Arab schools.

They have threatened "more drastic measures" unless the government approves the building programme and the necessary funding. David Sasson, deputy director of the ministry's planning and building department with special responsibility for the Arab sector, said 740 classrooms were unsuitable for their present use.

This did not include some 57 wooden huts, which would be replaced under another scheme, or rented accommodations which were in good condition and suitable for use as classrooms.

The five-year building programme recommended replacing dilapidated and rented rooms with 705 new and bigger classrooms at a total cost of NIS 88.5 m. at today's prices.

An additional 520 classrooms, just

over 100 classrooms a year, will be needed in the same period to accommodate population growth. The committee recommended that money for this project come from the ministry's normal development budget.

Sasson noted that the overcrowding in Arab schools had been exacerbated by a sharp increase in the number of pupils, especially in the last few years. This was partly due to a change in traditional attitudes of parents and children.

A far higher percentage of Arab schoolchildren now attended schools than in the past, apart from the natural growth in the population.

Sasson stressed that since 1948 the Arab population within the pre-1967 borders had increased sixfold, while the number of children attending school was 17 times higher.

Arab pupils yesterday sent tens of thousands of special New Year greeting cards to Jewish schoolchildren, in an effort to strengthen ties and win support in their fight for "equal education."

The cards have a tear-off slip which the Jewish pupils will be asked to send to Navon, urging him to improve facilities in Arab schools to bring them up to the standard of Jewish ones.

Mahmoud Younis, of Kfar A'ara in the Triangle, who conceived the idea, said over 100,000 Rosh Hashana cards had been printed. About half would be sent by Arab schoolchildren directly to the minister and the remainder to Jewish pupils.

Some Arab children decided to deliver the cards to their Jewish counterparts personally, handing them over with flowers.

Meir Vanunu:

Italy has proof Israel broke international law

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — Italian judicial authorities have conclusive evidence that Israel broke international law in bringing Mordechai Vanunu back to Israel from Rome last year, the accused's brother, Meir, said yesterday.

He was speaking to *The Jerusalem Post* at a demonstration in support of his brother, held across the street from the Israeli embassy.

About 40 representatives of organizations such as the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), the Anti-Apartheid Movement, and the Jewish Socialist Group, together with three British MPs, gathered beneath banners proclaiming slogans such as "Solidarity with Vanunu" and "Vanunu: The Real Hero of our Time."

CND's vice-chairman Bruce Kent delivered a letter to the Israeli

ambassador condemning "the kidnapping, abduction, arrest and detention of Vanunu," and urging that the Israel government release him and apologize to the British and Italian governments "for the activities of the Israeli secret service who violated British, Italian and international laws when they abducted Vanunu."

Kent told *The Post* that Vanunu had been "identifying the dangers" of Israel's nuclear capability to *The Sunday Times* last year. "His kidnapping was illegal, and nuclear weapons are illegal," said Kent. "He should be freed and returned to Italy."

Meir Vanunu was to have joined Kent in delivering the letter to the Israeli embassy, but it was decided that he would be safer staying outside the gates, since there is an Israeli warrant for his arrest.

Shofar maker expects to sell No. 300 today

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — The country's leading shofar maker was down to his last piece of merchandise yesterday, with every other of the 299 items he made for this year's High Holydays sold out.

Meir Bar-Sheshet told *The Jerusalem Post* he had no doubt that the last shofar would go too before Rosh Hashana starts tonight.

The shofarot are all made by hand from ram's horns imported from Morocco.

Bar-Sheshet said his customers included owners of stores of religious items, private buyers and many tourists. As they had taken all the shofarot he had made, he was unable to supply horns to the Religious Affairs Ministry which buys at a discount.

While Bar-Sheshet would not talk of prices, the owner of a nearby religious store told *The Post* that he had sold the shofarot retail at between NIS 65 or NIS 130 each. This was similar to last year's prices plus

the 20 per cent rise in the cost-of-living index since then "but no more. If they were on the index, they would not have raised the rate of inflation," he said.

Actually, the shop owner said he had not sold many yet, but was confident that he would be able to unload his supply of shofarot after Rosh Hashana "which is the real season for those in the know."

Experience has shown that post-festival customers include the men who have done badly blowing the horn in the synagogue and tend to blame the shofar for their failure. "They come in the day after looking for a new one," said the shop owner.

In addition, after pocketing their shofar blowing fees, "the blowers can afford new horns and come to get them while the supply lasts."

Bar-Sheshet, after three months of hard work to supply the market, now will take a long rest from his craft until next summer. Meanwhile the stores will sell off their stocks.



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3 Issachar St., Matnas
Tel. 02-203448

HAIFA
Or Chadash Congregation,
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Central Carmel.
Tel. 04-253711, 04-383925

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Edmond Fleg St.,
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Beit WIZO,
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D.N. Ma'ale Hagazit,
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Movement Headquarters: 13 King David St., Jerusalem, Tel. 02-203448

The Israel Movement, the World Union for Progressive Judaism and ARZA
extend sincerest wishes to all the House of Israel for a peaceful and fruitful New Year.

Free Feisal Hussein

The report of Feisal Hussein's administrative detention arouses surprise. Six months ago, the Defence Minister sought to have him placed in administrative detention for six months, but a court ordered the term reduced to 3 months. Subsequently re-arrested for 10 days, he was released without being indicted. Now he has again been placed under administrative arrest. We are concerned, in view of the unusual circumstances of the case, there is no evading the impression that a person has been subjected to administrative arrest because there is neither the possibility nor the desire to place him on trial. We, the undersigned, urge that the administrative arrest be revoked, and call for the immediate release of Feisal Hussein.

First List

Dr. Aviad, Janet
Dr. Avi-Shaul, Mordechai
Dr. Avner, Uri
Dr. Abaz, Shlomo
Dr. Alkayem, Shai
Dr. Amir, Haya
Dr. Amir, Shmuel
Dr. Amity, Yossi
Dr. Arnon, Ya'akov
Dr. Blanc, Judy
Dr. Blass, Gila
Dr. Benvenisti, Meron
Dr. Batzar, Ya'akov
Dr. Barabash, Uri
Dr. Berger, Tami
Dr. Bercovici, Avi
Dr. Bricker, Manahem
Dr. Gordon, Lee
Dr. Garbuz, Yair
Dr. Dolev, Nevet

Dr. Dolev, Amram
Dr. Dror, Aliza
Dr. Heller, Jeff
Dr. Hammerman, Ilana
Dr. Hanegebi, Haim
Dr. Habbibi, Emil
Dr. Hazan, Naomi
Dr. Hasson, Yitzhak
Dr. Harlap, Raanan
Dr. Yadlitzki, Vitolik
Dr. Laor, Yitzhak
Dr. Lotan, Yael
Dr. Lam, Zvi
Dr. Lavi, Yisrael
Dr. Laquiere, Shlomo
Dr. Michael, Amos
Dr. Michael, Samy
Dr. Milgrom, Yirmiyahu
Dr. Mendes-Flores, Paul
Dr. Margalit, Avishay

Dr. Ne'eman, Jadd
Dr. Ne'eman, Michal
Dr. Narodovskiy, Sally
Dr. Amit, Daniel
Dr. Parash, Hanna
Dr. Pineschi, Bekky
Dr. Pineschi, Tikva
Dr. Sadok, Walid
Dr. Tzamel, Adi
Dr. Tzamel, Lash
Dr. Kaufman, Eddie
Dr. Kalderon, Nissim
Dr. Kapelluk, Olga
Dr. Rabinovitch, Dalia
Dr. Rosenfeld, Henry
Dr. Riv, David
Dr. Shuster, Hazi
Dr. Shloosh, Yosef
Dr. Sheinfeld, Ilan

Labour Party leaders believe they can get the support of the Orthodox parties for the Peres peace plan if agreement can be reached on the 'Who is a Jew' issue. The prospect of such a package will undoubtedly be at the back of Peres' mind when he meets the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York today



(Andre Brutzman)

PERES'S PEACE JIGSAW

David Landau

WHEN SHIMON PERES meets Eduard Shevardnadze in New York today he probably won't mention to his fellow foreign minister his current involvement in a complex crisis-management exercise: the Orthodox-secular confrontation in Jerusalem.

The Soviets have shown little interest, and even less understanding, for Israel's domestic political concerns.

The conversation, instead, will doubtless focus on the prospects for an international conference, on Peres's conditions for Soviet participation, on the Soviets' disdain for Peres's conditions, and on their partial compliance with those conditions nevertheless.

But the Orthodox-secular problem will be prominent in Peres's mind, even if he does not articulate it. Increasingly, the Labour leader and his close circle of advisers are coming to concede an inescapable linkage between their ambitious peace diplomacy and their party's posture on the religious question at home. And having conceded it, reluctantly and belatedly, they are now anxious to act on it.

The key issue, as they see it, is "Who is a Jew."

They believe there can be a package deal: "Who is a Jew" for support on the peace conference. A revival of the old Labour-Orthodox concordat, based on the political "moderation" which they hope still exists, albeit much diminished and suppressed, in the Orthodox community.

They recognize that some of this "moderation" flows from an ideological ambivalence towards the entire Zionist enterprise.

They know, too, that the proposed dalliance with an Orthodox riding high and suffused with surging fundamentalism is as dangerous as it is, to them, distasteful.

But they have come to the conclusion that, in Peres's words, "priorities have to take precedence, and the top priority is peace."

This position, high-minded and responsible, is not new on the Left. Victor Shemtov, the sagacious Mapam leader, espoused it back in 1981, after the Alignment's disappointing election performance. Unlike Shulamit Aloni and Amnon Rubinstein, he did not indulge in ego-gratifying pronouncements about whom he would or would not sit within a coalition.

Peres himself always recognized the inexorable arithmetic, but drew a "red line" around "Who is a Jew." Whether for that very reason, or for reasons of conscience and conviction, "Who is a Jew" has since become the *sine qua non* for Labour-Orthodox political cooperation.

Labour, by applying the whips to its Knesset faction, foiled every attempt to change the law. Hence there has been no cooperation, but instead a steady growing apart.

Now, significantly, there is rethinking in the Peres camp. "All that we're being asked is to allow a free vote, a vote of conscience," one key figure recently explained, as though he had just discovered an inherent rectitude in the Orthodox demand.

The thinking focuses on tactics and timing, on how somehow to synchronize Mr. Shevardnadze and Mr. Avraham Shapira so that each responds favourably to an agreement reached with the other.

Could such a package deal be pulled off during the lifetime of the



Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze...the question is how to synchronize him with Avraham Shapira of Agudat Yisrael (Reuter).

present Knesset, leading to the creation of a new, narrow-based government? (Would Aloni and Rubinstein have the sense to cooperate?) Or could Peres present it as his election platform in 1988? The Peres strategists have no answers yet, even in their own minds.

They are troubled by what they see as the Soviets' obtuse ignorance or willful indifference to Israeli domestic politics. They feel that the three-month sojourn here of the Russian "consuls" has done little or nothing to deepen Moscow's understanding of Peres's political constraints and of the tight interweaving of parochial and international concerns in Israel's democratic tapestry.

They are troubled, too, by the upheaval that this strategy would inevitably cause to their relations with American Jewry; but they are determined, they say, to disregard it.

There is a new toughness, born apparently out of long resentment, in their attitudes to the largely liberal and non-Orthodox American Jewish leadership that presumes to determine that "Who is a Jew" is an issue amenable to Diaspora intervention while war-or-peace, Zionism-or-binationism, must be left exclusively to the Israeli political process.

This position, maintained in blithe - some would say hypocritical - disregard for the realities of parliamentary democracy, has resulted in a sustained abdication of conscience on the part of many American Jews and their leaders.

For Israeli Labour and its peace aspirations, it has meant much sympathy - and no meaningful support at all. [The American Jewish Congress statement this week (see facing page) was a welcome breeze in the stagnant air.]

That being the case, the lead-

ership of Labour is reconsidering whether it can any longer afford to maintain this lopsided symbiosis with the American Jewish leadership, when with each passing day the chance to strike out towards peace seems to recede. After all, without peace there will not be much point in arguing about the law of "Who is a Jew."

Poise and polish at Harvard forum

David Makovsky

IT WAS THE first day of Autumn classes at Harvard, and yet another famous lecturer had a room too small for the overflow of students that inevitably accompanies the start of the academic year.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was speaking at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and although there was no time for publicity, the modern, three-tiered quadrangular Arco Forum was filled to capacity and students were turned away from the doors before the address began.

Missing were the outdoor demonstrations that had been a staple for Israeli speakers on campus during the turbulent days of the Lebanon war. Only a token protest was held by two, solitary Palestinian students who quietly passed out stencils of MIT linguistics Professor Noam Chomsky's all-too-familiar diatribe against Israel.

The Arco Forum, which seats only 700 students in its multi-layered balcony, is a speaker's dream and nightmare at once. From the podium, through the haze cast by the klieg lights, students can be seen all the way up to the rafters. The strong sense of eventfulness and attentiveness can only serve to massage a speaker's ego.

Yet the feeling of gladiatorial combat is also strong, as pointed questions shooting from so many different directions can cause the lecturer to become flustered and lose his poise. For the most part, Shimon Peres did not.

Anyway, unlike many European campuses, it is generally known that most of the wind has gone out of the rhetorical sails of Israel's detractors at American universities.

The Israeli foreign minister was assured a friendly reception from the start from the well-mannered students of today. A nice welcome from Harvard president Derek Bok produced a warm ambience.

Peres returned the compliment with one of his favourite lines: "We are one of the only countries in the world, that, despite the fact that the U.S. has helped us with aid, remains pro-American."

Peres improbably likened the strained national unity government to the garden of Eden, remarking: "Adam chose Eve because there was nobody else around." For the Harvard audience, Peres pulled out a quote from Talleyrand in support of his assumption that the superpowers would provide the stamp of approval for peace at an international



(AFP photo)

al Mideast peace conference. Talleyrand said: "Short of war, legitimacy is the most important instrument of foreign policy."

After his address ended to sustained applause, the questioning began and Peres's parliamentary experience stood him in good stead during the rather spirited exchanges. Peres showed patience as questioners were allowed to engage in mini-debates with Israel's foreign minister. A few of his rebuttals were even memorable. He mostly answered questions directly but also allowed himself a few oratorical flourishes.

ONE PERSISTENT Palestinian questioner traded comments with Peres for over 10 minutes. At one point he queried Peres, "Why don't you negotiate directly with the PLO?" Peres answered, "One Knesset member from the minority Communist Party just returned to Israel from a meeting with Arafat, supposedly carrying a message for Israeli leaders. Even before he stepped off the plane, Arafat denied sending the message. So, you are not authorized."

The Palestinian, in reference to the two-headed government of Israel, shot back in frustration: "But you are not authorized to speak for Israel."

Peres, not to be denied a return volley, retorted: "But at least I was elected."

After four, long "PLO questions" in a row, Peres became a bit testier.

"Do you deny that West Bank Palestinians see the PLO as their representative?" a British student asked. Peres's rejoinder: "Why did Arafat retreat from his agreement with King Hussein? He yielded because of opposition at home. If he can't decide at home, how can he lead? If there were elections in the West Bank between the two, the king might win. He at least has manners and makes decisions."

He went on to field other questions related to Israel and South Africa, the Law of Return and religious-secular tensions in Israel.

He may have been both at his weakest and strongest on the question of relations with Iran. When he denied that Israel shipped weapons to that country except at the behest of President Reagan, there was noticeable disbelief in the audience. Yet Peres also made one of his boldest statements regarding future ties with Iran.

"Israel can have no meaningful understanding with Khomeini's Iran. Everything he stands for, we stand against, and everything that we are for, he is against," Peres stated flatly. He also denied a Turkish news report that Israel traded arms to Iran for the release of 30,000 Iranian Jews.

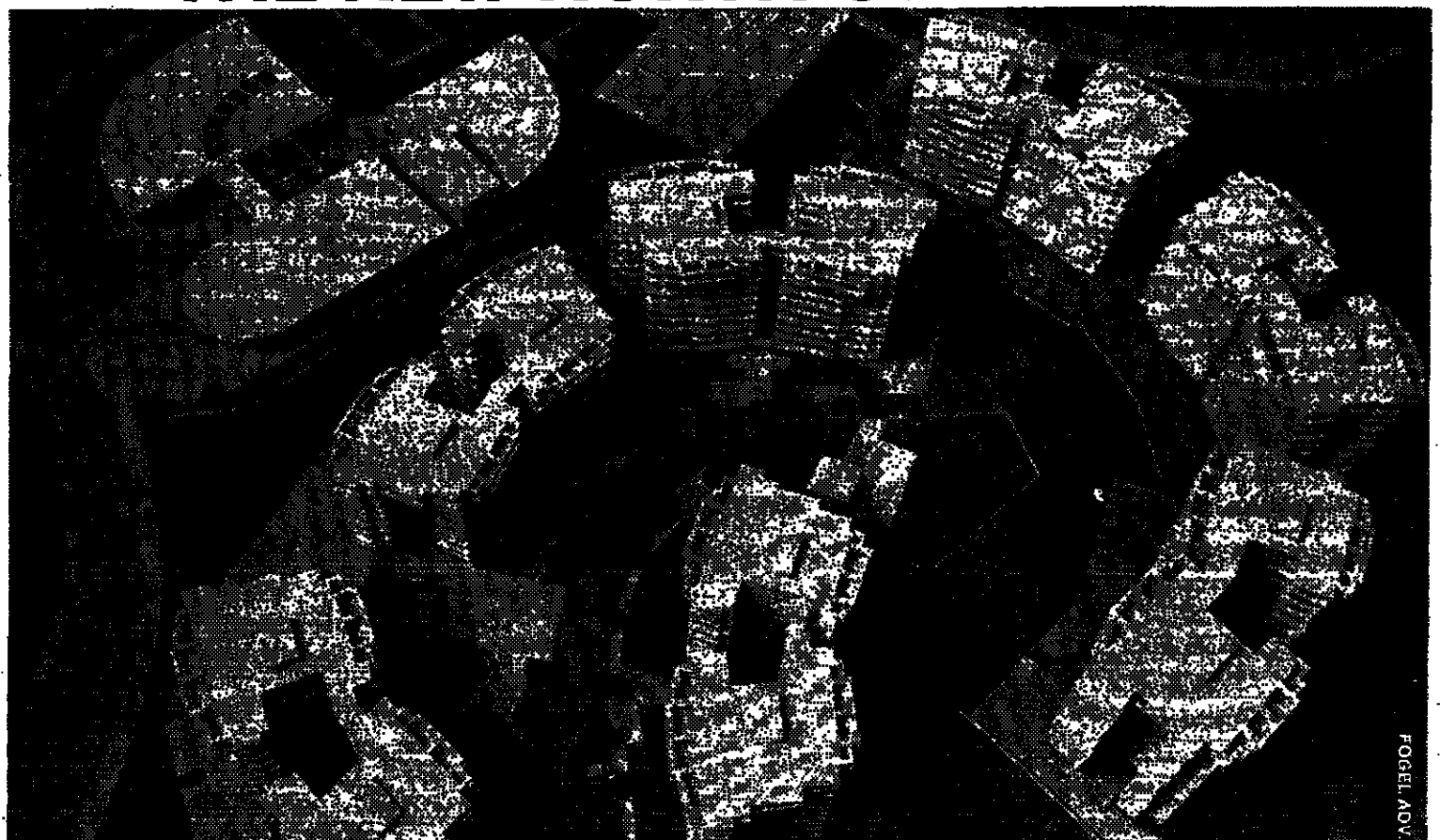
Laurie Mylroie, associate professor of government at Harvard, saw policy significance in Peres's remarks. Mylroie, who was recently in the Middle East, talking to Israeli leaders in Jerusalem and senior Arab officials in various Mideast capitals, indicated that Arabs believe that Israel may favour Iran in its Persian Gulf war with Iraq. Peres's remarks at Harvard should help dispel that impression, Mylroie said.

Others who attended the session, commented less on policy, more on the overall impression.

Student Evan Davis, who asked one of the "PLO questions", conceded: "I like Shimon Peres, he is one of the great leaders of our time - but I think it is awful that he is the most liberal in the Israeli mainstream."

Harvard President Bok privately expressed praise for the way Peres handled the crowd, saying, "He showed remarkable patience, answering the same questions he probably answered a thousand times before, but he never talked down to the students."

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Plea to Soviets for 'balance'

NEW YORK - Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told a press briefing in Boston yesterday that he welcomes the U.S.-Soviet agreement to reduce medium-range nuclear arms, saying that the agreement "shows a deep desire to stop the arms race."

Peres called on the Soviet Union

to take a more balanced position in the Middle East, and said he believes the Soviets are "surprised at the scope and depth of the unofficial and practical understandings we have reached with some Arab countries."

On another point, Peres said Israel "is not in full accord" with

Pope John Paul II concerning the attitude of his predecessor (Pius XII) during the Nazi era. During a recent appearance in Miami, John Paul said that Pius XII had "worked hard and effectively" to save Jews during World War II.

Peres met yesterday in Boston with Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and gave a speech at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He arrived late last night in New York, and is to meet this morning with Secretary of State George Shultz.

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Faisal Hussein



Sari Nusseibeh

Retreat from dialogue

Joel Greenberg reports on Palestinian reaction to the talks between Sari Nusseibeh and Likud member Moshe Amirav.



Moshe Amirav

THE BEATING this week of Birzeit University professor Sari Nusseibeh after revelations of his talks with Likud members has exposed the undercurrent of suspicion in the Palestinian community about the discussions.

While the talks between party central committee member Moshe Amirav, MK Ehud Olmert and PLO backers have caused embarrassment and an uproar in the Likud, they have also elicited censure of the three Palestinian participants in their own camp. Nusseibeh has kept silent since the assault. Arab Studies Society head Faisal Hussein is in jail under a six-month administrative detention order and thus incommunicado. Salah Zuheikah, an editor of the newspaper *Ash-Shaab*, has begun to defend his moves.

At a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday, Zuheikah took pains to emphasize that his group had not conceded on any of the basic points of the PLO's political platform. While carefully noting that the talks were not negotiations, and that only the PLO was authorized to conclude agreements, he said that the three had insisted on the basic Palestinian positions: the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; the Palestinians have the right to self-determination, the establishment of an independent state, and to return to their homeland.

ZUHEIKAH'S statements appeared to be backed up by a document he presented, which he said contained negotiation guidelines written by Amirav, and acceptable to participants in the discussions. The points included recognition of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinians, and of the Palestinians' right to a state of their own beside Israel.

However, a separate document outlining an interim arrangement for expanded Palestinian self-rule — agreed on but not signed in the discussions — gave some indication of why the Palestinian participants had drawn criticism. While the document spoke of the Palestinian right

to self-determination and said the PLO is their sole legitimate representative, it significantly omitted mention of the ultimate goal of establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Instead it spoke of a Palestinian "entity" to be established for an interim period, which would have the trappings of nationhood (a flag, a national anthem, a currency, travel documents, etc.) and provide Palestinians with control of natural resources, as well as self-government.

This document, more modest than the guidelines attributed to Amirav, drew sharp questions from one Palestinian journalist at the press conference, who noted its omissions of the final Palestinian goal of independence. Zuheikah, on the defensive, said the Palestinian participants had not come to talk to the Likud about accepting self-rule, "which is rejected by the Palestinian people."

Zuheikah's difficulties were evident, but so was his attempt to portray himself and his partners as trying to encourage moderates in the Likud while not conceding any fundamental Palestinian demands. THIS WAS apparently not good enough for significant segments of Palestinian public opinion, if one is to judge by editorials in the East Jerusalem press, and statements by certain Palestinian spokesmen.

At Birzeit University, where Nusseibeh was beaten, there was speculation that the attack was not necessarily the work of radical supporters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, but could have been carried out by hardline Fatah supporters. Campus leaflets signed by both PFLP and Fatah factions charged that Nusseibeh's meetings with the Likud were a deviation from the PLO's official line of maintaining contacts solely with "progressive forces" in Israel.

The head of the Birzeit student council told reporters this week that he favored meetings only with Israelis who supported the Palestinian cause, and not those who wanted to hurt it, like the Labour Party and the Likud.

The Fatah-dominated council denounced the attack, but added that the faction disagreed with Nusseibeh's political positions. Nusseibeh's prediction that Palestinians would soon demand equal political rights in the Israeli system has brought accusations in the past that, by implication, he supported annexation of the territories to Israel.

AN EDITORIAL in the East Jerusalem *Al-Quds* newspaper reflected the wariness among Palestinians regarding contacts with the Likud, long considered an extreme party with which there was no hope of reaching a real settlement. According to the paper, the question was whether the reported talks indeed showed that the Likud was more ready for peace than Labour, or were rather a reflection of competition between the two parties, for which the Palestinians would pay the price. "Indications are that everything we hear and read is nothing more than a public relations campaign, and political traps laid by the Israeli unity government," the paper concluded.

The *An-Nahar* newspaper, more supportive of Jordan, reflected the shock in Amman over revelations of direct PLO overtures to Israel. It asked whether the talks with the Likud had produced anything better than the 1985 Hussein-Arafat accord, which outlined guidelines for a negotiated peace. The paper asserted that the Palestinian participants had usurped the position of the PLO as the sole party which can negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians. Calling the talks "dangerous," it said they undermined the decisions of Arab summit conferences and pan-Arab agreement on the need to convene an international Middle East peace conference on the basis of UN resolutions 242 and 338.

The consensus among Palestinians of various political opinions appeared to be, therefore, that while the assault on Nusseibeh was to be condemned in the strongest possible terms, his talks with Likud personalities should be viewed with a healthy dose of scepticism.

Back to the ma'abarot mentality

Charles Hoffman warns that the housing conditions of Ethiopian olim are recreating the apathy and alienation which prevailed in the transit camps of the 50s and 60s.



SEVERAL THOUSANDS of the Ethiopian Jews who were welcomed in Israel with great fanfare during Operation Moses almost three years ago have been consigned to limbo. The authorities are well aware of their housing plight, but are looking for a way to evade responsibility.

As reported in last Friday's *Jerusalem Post*, about 800 Ethiopian families from Operation Moses have been put in "temporary" housing that threatens to bring about a semi-permanent deterioration in morale as well as living conditions. They are living in public housing projects that were supposed to be used temporarily as absorption centres when the regular centres filled up.

Acting against the advice of their own experts, the heads of the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish Agency Aliya Department decided in late 1985 that these centres would be "converted" into permanent housing. Later they were forced to revise this policy.

They eventually decided that about half of the residents of the converted centres would be moved out, so that the centres would not become permanent "Ethiopian ghettos." But the residents of the converted centres were placed last on the priority list for permanent housing, since it was considered more urgent to find homes for those Ethiopians still stuck in the cramped quarters of regular absorption centres.

THIS APPROACH looks fair enough on paper, as long as one takes a bureaucratic perspective. This means that "immigrant absorption" becomes a matter of shuffling housing statistics and budget figures, rather than dealing with a complex human reality.

The human reality of the housing situation in the converted centres is that hundreds of Ethiopian families are being forced into a downward spiral of degeneracy similar to that which prevailed in the notorious immigrant transit camps (*ma'abarot*) of the 1950s and 1960s.

To be sure, the physical conditions in the converted centres are far better than the squalor of the *ma'abarot*. But the apathy, ignorance and lack of responsibility being cultivated there are the same.

Just what happened in these converted centres to produce such a reaction?

When the immigrants were brought there, they were promised that this would only be temporary, and that eventually they would get permanent housing. But then the authorities changed their mind, and the immigrants were told they would continue to live in these flats.

Feeling betrayed and cheated, the immigrants rebelled. The Ethiopians have been marked by a strong desire to integrate and learn the

ways of their new country as fast as possible. They knew instinctively that their integration would be severely impaired if they were left in these ghettos.

So they refused to sign leases for these flats with the public housing companies that own them, in some cases Amidar (government) and in others Amigour (the Jewish Agency).

BUT THE JEWISH Agency Aliya Department pulled out of these facilities in April 1986, as it had been requested to do by the Absorption Ministry. The result was an immediate deterioration of morale and physical conditions and the creation of the present state of limbo.

Many of the residents of these converted centres still don't have a clear idea of what happened to them and why no one exercises responsibility for the maintenance of their buildings. They don't know who owns their flats, since they don't pay rent to anyone, and no one takes care of the buildings.

When a pipe bursts or some other major breakdown occurs, they go from office to office until they find someone who will do something. They are understandably less familiar than others with the bureaucratic maze created by the overlapping functions of the government and the Jewish Agency.

They are quickly developing that "I don't give a damn" syndrome that afflicted earlier generations of immigrants who were victimized by the authorities. And this will probably turn into the same type of bitter resentment and hostility that the earlier immigrants developed as their only way to fight back.

Being forced to live in these conditions also stigmatizes the Ethiopians in the eyes of their neighbours. The Ethiopians themselves are thus blamed for the filth and disorder that has been imposed on them by the authorities.

IF THIS WERE really a temporary situation, then we would not have to worry about its long-term effects on the immigrants, especially the children. But despite the plans and good intentions of the Absorption Ministry to solve most of the housing problems of the Ethiopians within the current fiscal year—that is, by next April—a more realistic prospect is that the housing limbo will continue for at least several more years.

Out of the 3,500 Ethiopian families who have come to Israel since the late 1970s, some 2,200 of them have permanent housing. About 1,000 families are still in regular absorption centres, often in very crowded conditions. The remaining several hundred families are those in the converted centres who will be among the lucky ones to be "thinned out" by the authorities.

The Absorption Ministry calculated that NIS 75 m. would be needed this year to buy 1,000 flats for those still in the regular centres. But this money comes from the Housing Ministry, which says that the Treasury has allocated enough funds to cover only 200 flats for this year.

So what does the government—which has clearly acknowledged its responsibility for providing permanent housing for the Ethiopians—do then? It goes to the Jewish Agency to ask for money, hoping to play on the sympathy that the overseas donors naturally feel for the Ethiopians' plight.

AT A MEETING in June between the heads of the Agency and the government ministers dealing with the Ethiopian housing situation, a proposal was made that the government and the Agency each provide half of the NIS75m. needed this year for the 1,000 flats. According to someone who attended that meeting, Housing Minister David Levy made it clear, and in rather crude terms at that, that if the Agency does not come up with half of the money, then there will be no housing.

The overseas donors who make up half of the Agency leadership were reportedly taken aback at this proposal, since they had assumed that their obligation to the immigrants did not extend beyond the initial period of adjustment in Israel. They did not decide then either to accept or reject this proposal, nor is it clear just when they will do so. Meanwhile the government has an alibi for not doing what it was supposed to do. The government ministers responsible, Levy and Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur, can say that their hands are tied until the Agency makes up its mind. For now, they can claim there is "no money" for the Ethiopians.

But there is money, and plenty of it, for more West Bank settlements.

Earlier this month, the same David Levy who pleaded poverty when it came to housing for the Ethiopians, presided at the dedication of the new settlement of Avnei Hefetz, near Tulkarm. There he proclaimed the renewal of the Zionist vision and vowed that settlement efforts would continue throughout the occupied territories.

What is more, the Housing Ministry plans to build 2,000 housing units at Avnei Hefetz to create what it calls a "prestige suburb." Thus what has aptly been called "villa Zionism" is taking precedence over the need to provide decent living conditions for thousands of Ethiopians who endured incredible hardships to realize their dream of coming home to Eretz Israel.

As for Tsur, he recently threatened to resign if the government did not take action to remedy a serious national problem. This issue, however, had nothing to do with his responsibilities as absorption minister. His brave declaration, rare enough on the Israeli political scene, referred to the financial crisis that has plagued kibbutzim and moshavim for the past several years.

As far as I can recall, neither of these two ministers has made any proclamations this year calling on the government to allocate the funds needed to eradicate the shameful housing conditions being inflicted on thousands of immigrants from Operation Moses. Thus the real issue is not money or the supposed lack of it, but rather, what these ministers and their colleagues regard as truly important on the national scale of priorities.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

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FEATURES

The New Year calendar craze

The Jerusalem Post's Bernard Josephs looks into the fiercely competitive artistic calendar business, where manufacturers strive for a product that's never out of date.

IT'S A BAD time for postmen. The much-maligned men who deliver our letters must hate the run-up to Rosh Hashana. And who can blame them? Not only are they weighed down with the avalanche of mail generated by the national pastime of sending friends, relatives and business contacts New Year cards, they also have to contend with the calendar menace.

More than ever, people who want to impress their friends or put their company's name in a prominent position on someone's desk are splashing out on artwork calendars which can cost as much as NIS 50 each. Some of them are truly beautiful. But that isn't much compensation to the person trying to deliver them who finds they just don't fit into the average-size post box. In most cases they give up the unequal struggle and take the offending packages back to the local post office where they lie until someone comes to claim them.

Not that this has done anything to slow down the trade. Earlier this week with the New Year fast

approaching, the market place, as one prominent producer said, was "like a jungle."

Calendars are a risky business. If the millions of shekels invested by publishers are to be turned into profits then their produce has to be sold by the end of September. After all, few things are as useless as an out-of-date calendar.

Amos Rotnik, who said his company had already sold over 100,000 calendars by the end of August, confirmed that things can get pretty rough when unscrupulous small-timers try to muscle in on the multi-million shekel market.

Inferior copies of high-quality artwork are common. Plagiarism is another ever-present danger. "If you get a new idea and put it on the market then within a month you see it all over," he said.

But, he went on, in its calendar industry, the country has something to be proud of. Just returned from the Moscow book fair, he reported that Israel's display was a centre of attraction.

"I gave one of our calendars, showing Jewish

manuscripts, to an Intourist official whose husband is Jewish. She told me he was so excited to receive it he couldn't sleep all night," said Rotnik.

THE BIGGEST market for the calendar makers is probably foreign tourists. The superb artwork seen in the products of such companies as Palphot, Turnovsky, and Terra Sancta appears to be aimed straight at the Jewish visitor. Aerial shots of Israel, wild flowers of Israel, maps of ancient Israel and Ethiopian bible drawings are among the most successful themes.

Those looking for a saucer start to the New Year are likely to be disappointed. The tradition begun some 30 years ago, when the Italian tyre company, Pirelli shocked the art world by featuring shapely and scantily-clad models on its calendars, has been ignored in our stores. "It's only garages and businesses like that who send out such items to their customers," said Rotnik. "But it is a big business."

Perhaps the biggest calendar producer, Palphot, which also exports picture postcards to as far afield as Alaska, has about 15 different designs on the market this year, the most popular being Ethiopian bible drawings.

"You have to be aware of the market all the time," said director Micha Dorszaus. "A few years ago something like that would not have sold."

Getting it wrong can be a disaster. A manufacturer knows that he has a period of three to four months to sell his goods and that if he fails, what is left is commercially useless.

"Sometimes the ideas are our own. But quite often people come in with suggestions that we can use," said Dorszaus. "That is how we got the Ethiopian design."

Palphot, and other Israeli calendar manufacturers have won international prizes for their work. He went on. "We are well up to world standards."

Although their competitors might argue with this, the company with the biggest reputation for

quality is Turnovsky Art, a family concern which produces lush, full-colour items which have become collectors items.

"Certainly our calendars are not things which are thrown away at the end of the year," said Rahel Gilan, one of the owners. "Each year we bring out three or four calendars and we never repeat them."

This year Turnovsky's most popular lines include reproductions of Jewish manuscripts from all over the world, and pictures of unusual and beautiful Jerusalem doorways.

"We started the art calendar business in this country some 10 years ago and we have won international prizes every year since then. A lot of effort and knowledge goes into our product and we think our reputation for quality is deserved," said Gilan.

The emphasis, she said, is on art. The part of the product which tells customers the date is almost incidental. And, like other top-line manufacturers, Gilan insists that her calendars are items whose value lingers on for longer than a mere 12 months.



Optimistic about the Jewish future

Jerusalem Post Reporter Charles Hoffman talks to UJA leaders about their hopes for the recently launched 1988 fundraising campaign.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL National Chairman Martin Stein exudes optimism about the Jewish future, about Israel, and about the expected results of the 1988 UJA campaign which has just been launched with several major fundraising missions to Israel.

"My personal goal for the 1988 campaign is to reach a total of \$800 million," he said in an interview last week in Jerusalem. This would mean an increase of about \$40-50 million over the estimated receipts of the 1987 campaign.

These funds are raised in campaigns in over 200 Jewish communities throughout the U.S., which are organized and run by UJA and local community federations. The local federations decide what portion of the receipts will stay in the community, while the UJA passes on the remainder to the Jewish Agency and to the Joint Distribution Committee which provides educational and welfare services to Jewish communities around the world.

The portion of the total campaign that reaches Israel has been declining since the peak years after the Yom Kippur War, when it stood at about 60 percent. For the past few years, the national average of local campaign funds allocated through the UJA to the Jewish Agency and the JDC has hovered at just above 50 percent.

Stein, who is leading his second campaign as national chairman, explained that allocations to UJA have dropped because "most people are more aware of what is done with their contributions locally, and local needs have grown considerably in recent years."

There is a greater need now for



UJA National Chairman Martin Stein, left, and director of operations in Israel, Naphtali Lavie.

Jewish old age homes, and the demand is greater for Jewish education. Many people in my generation missed getting a good Jewish education, and now they want it for their kids. There is also a greater demand for family and child-care services, and everything is more expensive now than it was 10 years ago."

STEIN, 50, OWNS a chain of drug-stores and health service facilities in his home state of Wisconsin. As a former federation president in Milwaukee, he is well acquainted with the annual tug-of-war in federations between "local needs" and "overseas needs," as they are referred to in American fund-raising circles. Now as UJA national chairman, one of his jobs is to meet with the local committees that make the allocations decisions and to push for a higher portion for UJA.

The UJA, Stein notes, has always

given primacy to overseas needs. "When it comes time for these allocations decisions, UJA leaders go into a local community and say: 'We helped you raise these funds, now we want our fair share.'"

There is no set formula for what constitutes a community's "fair share" for overseas needs, he acknowledges.

"We have to be sensitive to their problems, and you can't push them beyond a certain point. And it's not an either/or situation. If we think that a community is not giving as much as they are able to the UJA, then we will sit down with them and figure out how to raise more money from their donors for all Jewish needs."

For the most part, this means focusing on the circle of potential big givers in a community and persuading them to increase their donations. Actually, he says, "there is an un-

written rule that people will be asked each year to increase their gifts. Our assumption is that people can afford to give more over time, and it's easy to find a rationale for giving more each year."

"Look, there are 500 donors in the \$100,000 and above class, and about 22 in the \$1 million-plus group. There are another 500 people in the \$50-100,000 category. Now I believe that we can get at least half of the people in this latter group up to the \$100,000 level."

This is done partly by personal example, he says. "Before I was campaign chairman in Milwaukee, I was at the \$60,000 level and we had eight people at the \$100,000 plus level. Then when I became chairman I raised my gift to \$100,000 and I got 10 more people to follow my example. Then we had 18 people giving \$100,000 or more a year. That's how it works, through a ripple effect among the friends and associates of the campaign leaders."

ANOTHER IMPORTANT tool for convincing communities to give a larger percentage to the UJA and for motivating individual givers to increase their donations is the fund-raising mission abroad. Once these focused solely on Israel, but the trend in recent years is to add "pre-mission" segments which take the participants to Eastern Europe or even to Morocco.

Naphtali Lavie, the director of UJA operations in Israel for the past two years, recalls his experiences accompanying a mission to his native Poland.

"This was a tremendous experience for them. They discovered their Jewish roots and they also real-

ized that it could have been them who perished in the Holocaust. But they also saw the continuity and revival of Jewish life, as we went from Eastern Europe to Israel."

"By seeing what happened there, and what has happened here, their Jewish identity was awakened and strengthened," says Lavie, who is a Holocaust survivor.

The Israel segments of missions usually include visits to Yad Vashem, to Youth Aliya schools to see the Ethiopian children, to Project Renewal neighbourhoods or agricultural settlements where some new projects have been developed. There are also briefings on the social and political scene in Israel and visits to regular tourist sites.

Lavie says that "it is a good sign that there is a constant demand for more missions. The donors have a need for a feeling of involvement and partnership with Israel, and they also want to see what happens to the money they give. I think that both of these motivations are positive."

While the UJA once shied away from exposing mission participants to controversial aspects of Israeli life, in recent years panel discussions on issues such as religious pluralism, Arab-Jewish relations, and settlement in the occupied territories have been held for the more advanced groups.

What about the status of the Jewish Agency itself, a controversial issue in Israel-Diaspora relations? Lavie said that very few missions get involved with the budgetary or other problems of the Agency as an institution. The vast majority of mission participants, he said, "want to see the results of their contributions, which means the actual work done by the Agency in the field."

This year about 6,000 people will come on group missions, with another 1,200 contributors, mostly in the big-giver class, coming on private visits coordinated by the UJA. These missions spend between \$8-10 million on hotels, tours and other services in Israel.

In addition, Lavie says, another

1,000 people from American communities come on independent fund-raising missions outside the UJA framework.

Lavie's office has invested special efforts in the past several years developing a format for the big givers' mission that kicks off the annual campaign. This has developed into the Prime Minister's Mission, popularly known as the "Concorde mission," in which those in the \$100,000-plus class are flown over to Israel on a chartered supersonic jet and are given three intensive days of touring, briefings by Israeli leaders and rides on various types of military conveyances (planes, boats, helicopters, etc.).

Lavie said that the 100 participants in this year's Prime Minister's Mission donated a total of \$25 million, or an average of \$250,000 per donor. They also agreed to pay for the entire cost of the mission, part of which is often subsidized for other groups. On last year's Prime Minister's Mission, the tab came to \$6,500 per person.

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THE RECENT SPATE of reports in Israel over the new U.S.-Soviet Intermediate-Range Nuclear Force Agreement (INF) has demonstrated a large degree of confusion over the actual content of the INF talks, their global significance, as well as their relevance for Israel and the Middle East.

This is partly due to the fact that popular Israeli interest in the entire arms control process has not been constant: it has only suddenly emerged with the Shultz-Shevardnadze agreement and its apparent implications for the Middle East international peace conference concept now sponsored by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Was the Israeli public attentive in 1977 when the USSR began deploying its most lethal INF system – the 5,000-kilometre range SS-20 missile – or in 1979 when NATO decided to counter-deploy the U.S. Pershing II and ground-launched cruise missiles on European soil?

Without going into the complex history of the INF nuclear weapons, a review of some fundamental aspects of the missiles under discussion ought to place the current arms control breakthrough in its proper perspective and clarify its possible implications for Israeli diplomatic and security interests.

The first general source of confusion about the INF agreement concerns what weapons are actually involved. Has the nuclear shadow been removed from Europe; are short-range missiles, like those deployed by Syria, involved in the deal? Land-based nuclear forces, according to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) are categorized as follows:

- Strategic Nuclear Forces (5,000-kilometre range and above) – e.g., U.S. Minuteman, M-X; Soviet SS-18, SS-19, SS-24.
- Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) (500- to 5,500-kilometre range) that include:

What to expect from Big Two arms deal

Dore Gold

- Long-Range Intermediate Nuclear Forces (LRINF) (1,800 to 5,500 kilometres) – e.g., U.S. Pershing II; ground-launched Cruise Missile; Soviet SS-4, SS-20;
- Short-Range Intermediate Nuclear Forces (SRINF) (500 to 800 kilometres) – e.g., Soviet SS-12, SS-23; there are no U.S. forces in this category;
- Short-Range Nuclear Forces (SNF) (below 500 kilometres) – e.g., U.S. Lance; Soviet SS-21, Scud-B, Frog-7.

SINCE THE renewal of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start) in Geneva in early 1985, Washington and Moscow have generally recognized these categorizations by creating three separate frameworks for negotiations: strategic offensive nuclear force talks, intermediate range nuclear force talks, and separate strategic defence talks. No framework was then established to handle short range systems.

With this background, how do we evaluate the significance of the current INF agreement? First, it must be recognized that the superpowers have only agreed in one of the three fields of negotiations going on today in Geneva. Still to be tackled are the far more sensitive intercontinental strategic missile systems and the highly controversial American Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) – popularly known as "Star Wars".

Second, even within the NATO-Warsaw Pact theatre itself, the current agreement falls short of what some have described as the "de-nuclearization" of Europe. The INF Agreement does not cover SNF forces, though there has been considerable confusion between the SRINF category, agreed upon just this year, and the still-

remaining SNF category. Here the Soviets retain a considerable advantage with some 1,400 SS-21, Scud-B, and Frog-7 missiles against a minuscule 36 U.S. Lance missiles.

The U.S. retains the capacity to deter the USSR from within the European theatre with nuclear-capable F-111 bombers based in Britain and submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) belonging to the U.S. Sixth Fleet. On their part, the Soviets have their own nuclear-capable bombers and can continue to threaten European cities with their long-range intercontinental missiles re-targeted for more, limited theatre operations.

Then what has anyone sacrificed in the INF Agreement? The American side has been more forthcoming in sharing the details of its concerns. According to Ameri-

can planners, the U.S. INF Force has unique strategic qualities not found in any of the alternative American European-based systems. Unlike the tiny Lance Force, for example, the U.S. Pershing and cruise-missile forces have a special deterrent effect by virtue of their capabilities of executing super-accurate strikes against hardened targets on the Soviet homeland itself – including Soviet military and political command centres.

From the American view, this can in no way be compared with striking less distant targets in Eastern Europe alone. U.S. bomber forces in Europe, capable of striking Soviet territory, have nowhere near the assured penetrability of the Warsaw Pact air defence network as do the INF missiles.

U.S. SLBM forces capable of striking the USSR might not be so readily used by NATO, according to former supreme allied commander General Bernard Rogers. A theatre SLBM strike could be confused by the Soviets with an all-out intercontinental attack.

In sum, a critical element in the deterrence ladder from conventional war to total nuclear war has now been removed from Europe with the INF agreement posing new problems for the credibility of the American nuclear guarantee to Europe.

"...several hurdles in arms control and regional disputes are yet to be overcome before the INF agreement might directly affect Israeli diplomacy."

generally, and to still SNF-threatened West Germany, in particular.

WHAT'S THE connection between the INF Agreement and the Middle East? First, although a great deal has been accomplished by negotiating the first-ever cuts in nuclear weapons, the superpowers have a long way to go before arms control might spill over into a general political détente.

Progress in the long-range strategic arms

Israel needs Jericho II as a legitimate deterrent

Ya'kov Morris

tor of the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram* traced Nasser's attempts from 1960 to develop an atomic device with the encouragement of Gaddafi whom he quotes as saying that this would be the prelude to "an overall war to liquidate Israel."

When Heikal himself urged Egypt to continue its efforts, Gaddafi was reported by a Sudanese paper as boasting that "Libya will soon be a nuclear power."

According to Heikal, the Libyan dictator sent his prime minister, Jaihold, to China "to buy the atomic bomb" but his bid was rejected. In May 1975, Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin visited Libya and signed a nuclear co-operation agreement to supply a two-megawatt research reactor and train Libyan scientists. Although this may have added to Gaddafi's prestige, it could not be considered a nuclear threat.

The following year, Libya signed an agreement with France for the sale of a 600-megawatt reactor as well as a research centre. The French, however, had second thoughts and cancelled the agreement. Whatever the reasons, the French had decided to confine these efforts in the oil-rich Arab camp to Iraq. Meanwhile, Gaddafi was investing considerable effort in gaining influence in the uranium-endowed countries of Chad, Niger and others in central Africa.

IT WAS NOT until 1979 that ties between Libya and Pakistan were initiated, resulting in their subsequent collaboration in developing an "Islamic Bomb." This connection surfaced repeatedly in the Western press, exposing Libya's role as financier of Pakistan's relatively advanced nuclear development project, for which several tons of natural uranium had been purchased from Niger.

In 1979, Libya abruptly cut its oil supplies to India, following reports that the latter had refused to share its nuclear secrets. In February 1980 it was further reported that West Germany was already supplying Pakistan with uranium-enrichment equipment. That year, Libyan officials repeated their promises that their country would soon be a nuclear power. American protests at these developments were rejected by Pakistan on the grounds that India had already exploded an atomic device.

The Libyan-Pakistani partnership, however, had a keen competitor. Iraq's dictator Haddam Hussein was determined not to be outdone by Gaddafi and was making his own strenuous efforts to develop an "Arab" bomb. In November 1975, a contract was signed with

laimed their ambitions to build an "Arab bomb."

Dictators Nasser and Gaddafi were its earliest proponents, while other radical Arab leaders were swift to compete. With this in mind, Israel's UN representatives on numerous occasions proposed a treaty with Arab countries to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Middle East region, on the same lines as one already in existence in South America.

Such Israel overtures were ignored. If there was any Arab reaction at all, it was to scoff at repeated Israeli declarations that it would not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East, pointing to Israel's refusal to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty or permit inspection of its Dimona reactor.

Nor was this scepticism confined to the Arabs. Speculation in certain Western circles that Israel was already in possession of nuclear weapons has been rife over the years, providing the Arabs with justification for their stand. Whether intentionally or not, such Western speculation frequently coincided with the sale of large quantities of conventional weaponry to Arab arsenals, threatening to tilt the Middle East arms balance in Arab favour.

Lurid tales of how Israel "stole" uranium, appearing even in paperback book form, made good Western copy as proof that this country would go to any lengths – and had done so – to produce nuclear weapons. Emphasis on Israel's relative technological and academic sophistication was calculated to leave no doubt as to its nuclear capacity, while that of at least a score of other countries outside the nuclear "club" was ignored.

Israel's friends – and perhaps not a few of the country's own officials – found an answer to such allegations by keeping the Arabs guessing, thus possibly inhibiting their warlike intentions.

BUT EVEN IF the Arabs believed this, it did not deflect them from preparing to go to war against Israel in 1967 and 1973. Moreover, in the realm of propaganda, suspicions were spread among Israel's friends and ammunition provided to its enemies, including the rationale that Arab efforts to acquire nuclear weapons were "defensive" and not "offensive."

These efforts were described by Hassan Heikal in his book, *The Road to Ramadan*. The former edi-

tor of the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram* traced Nasser's attempts from 1960 to develop an atomic device with the encouragement of Gaddafi whom he quotes as saying that this would be the prelude to "an overall war to liquidate Israel."

When Heikal himself urged Egypt to continue its efforts, Gaddafi was reported by a Sudanese paper as boasting that "Libya will soon be a nuclear power."

According to Heikal, the Libyan dictator sent his prime minister, Jaihold, to China "to buy the atomic bomb" but his bid was rejected. In May 1975, Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin visited Libya and signed a nuclear co-operation agreement to supply a two-megawatt research reactor and train Libyan scientists. Although this may have added to Gaddafi's prestige, it could not be considered a nuclear threat.

The following year, Libya signed an agreement with France for the sale of a 600-megawatt reactor as well as a research centre. The French, however, had second thoughts and cancelled the agreement. Whatever the reasons, the French had decided to confine these efforts in the oil-rich Arab camp to Iraq. Meanwhile, Gaddafi was investing considerable effort in gaining influence in the uranium-endowed countries of Chad, Niger and others in central Africa.

IT WAS NOT until 1979 that ties between Libya and Pakistan were initiated, resulting in their subsequent collaboration in developing an "Islamic Bomb." This connection surfaced repeatedly in the Western press, exposing Libya's role as financier of Pakistan's relatively advanced nuclear development project, for which several tons of natural uranium had been purchased from Niger.

In 1979, Libya abruptly cut its oil supplies to India, following reports that the latter had refused to share its nuclear secrets. In February 1980 it was further reported that West Germany was already supplying Pakistan with uranium-enrichment equipment. That year, Libyan officials repeated their promises that their country would soon be a nuclear power. American protests at these developments were rejected by Pakistan on the grounds that India had already exploded an atomic device.

The Libyan-Pakistani partnership, however, had a keen competitor. Iraq's dictator Haddam Hussein was determined not to be outdone by Gaddafi and was making his own strenuous efforts to develop an "Arab" bomb. In November 1975, a contract was signed with

France, under which the latter was to build a "nuclear city" near Baghdad equipped with a 70-megawatt Osiris-type reactor, and to train Iraqi nuclear scientists. As was well known, that type of reactor could generate enough plutonium 239 to produce nuclear bombs.

Though the French denied this at the time, *The Christian Science Monitor* of Boston reported in April 1979 that the French had shipped as much as 680 kgm. of uranium to Iraq.

The London *Financial Times* also reported that, under a deal between Brazil and Iraq, the latter was to supply the former with 80 per cent of its oil in a type of barter for large supplies of uranium and access to sophisticated West German technology. Whatever the ultimate purpose, it seems certain that the two countries were at least cooperating in uranium prospecting, technological assistance and the eventual supply of plutonium.

That Iraq was, by 1981, well ahead of the Libyan-Pakistani effort is now history. By that time, according not only to Israeli intelligence, but also to testimony to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Senate, Iraq was only months away from the production of its first Hiroshima-size bomb. The evidence was provided by an expert inspector of the Atomic Energy Commission in the outcry that followed the Israeli bombing of the Iraqi nuclear plant in June 1981.

This evidence was ignored, and the media instead focused on what it claimed to be an outrage committed by Israel against Iraq's "peaceful" nuclear development.

That the Osiris reactor was not suitable for producing electrical power but rather for the production of weapons, and that the Iraqis had refused the "Carmel" nuclear fuel offered by France (too low in energy for bomb production) but had insisted instead on fuel of a much richer type also apparently escaped media notice.

WITH THE BOMBING of the Iraqi reactor, Pakistan was left, as far as the Arab and Islamic worlds were concerned, with a clear field.

ments, then it may not feel so constrained regarding the SS-23 as well.

A second area of Israeli security that could be affected by the INF agreement relates to the whole question of Allied cooperation – including Israeli – in the U.S. SDI programme. Europe and Israel alike have been less interested in the exotic space-based missile interception technologies usually associated with Star Wars. Instead, they have focused on developing defences against shorter-range weapons whose flight path, in many cases, never leaves the atmosphere.

Within the SDI programme, as a result, the U.S. has initiated an Anti-Tactical Ballistic Missile Project (ATBM) that has awarded some \$14 million in research contracts to European consortiums and \$5.1 million to Israeli companies.

The expected removal of the Soviet INF threat will severely undercut European interest in ATBM-SDI, by leaving only Germany exposed to Soviet short-range forces. Any further progress in the short-range field will kill entirely European interest in ATBM-SDI, and hence the entire U.S. ATBM programme as well.

Should Israel pursue the development of its own ATBM either for local deployment to counter Syrian missiles or for eventual foreign sales or co-production, it may find itself stripped of American funding as well as foreign markets in the not-too-distant future.

Thus, strategic developments in Europe ought to be carefully followed by Israeli planners before financial and scientific energies are placed in systems that might not be as affordable as previously anticipated.

The writer heads the U.S. Foreign and Defence Policy Project at the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies. He also teaches the development of U.S. nuclear strategy in the Department of Political Science in Tel Aviv University.

According to current reports, it is now on the verge of exploding its first atomic device. To all appearances, Western pressure to refrain from doing so are less than half-hearted. The Pakistanis still point in self-justification to the existence of such weapons in India although the latter professes not to have produced any.

The question exercising Israel, notwithstanding its distance from Pakistan, is the nature of that country's commitment to Libya. Gaddafi's investment of a great deal of money in Pakistan's nuclear development was obviously not inspired by the Koran alone. Is Gaddafi due to gain possession of a Pakistani nuclear bomb? If so, a menace not less than the Iraqi bomb looms. Not only Israel could be faced with the problem of preemptive action; both India and Egypt are no less affected. Experience has demonstrated how little Israel can rely on the international community for protection. The West has had ample warning over the years of what Pakistan has been doing and Libya's role as its partner. A bomb in the hands of Gaddafi, whose ambition to fill Nasser's shoes has never been concealed, would threaten the entire Middle East and Africa.

It is perhaps with this in mind that Moshe Dayan amended the usual Israeli declaration about not being the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East by adding, "but we will not be the second to use them." Unlike in other Western countries, where public discussion about nuclear deterrence and defence has been long and detailed, in Israel the subject is treated with conspicuous silence.

Within this context, the trial of Mordechai Vanunu has particular significance. The least that can be said is that it should add greater urgency to any prospect of peace discussion between Israel and its neighbours. And, if peace is still a distant dream, it is high time Israel began taking steps to provide better shelter protection for the population against chemical, bacteriological or nuclear warfare.

The writer is a former Israeli diplomat.

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LIVING IN LIMBO

This report on the situation of a number of Soviet refuseniks was compiled by Enid Wurtzman from details supplied by the Israel Council for Soviet Jewry, the Soviet Jewry Education and Information Centre, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, Israel Action, the "355" group and other sources. The dates indicate when the reports were received

AUGUST 24

Galina and Mark Genin first applied for exit visas to Israel in 1978. Their initial refusal was based on the claim that Galina had access to classified information in 1974. Deprived of the right to work in their professions, Mark, 46, a physicist, now works as a lift operator, and Galina, 42, a mathematician, gives private lessons. Their most urgent problem is their son, Vladimir, 16, who is autistic. They live with the hope that when they are permitted to live in Israel their son will be provided with the medical and educational facilities that he so urgently requires. Says Galina: "To deny us on the grounds of 13-year-old classified information is to itself totally ludicrous — but to deny us the chance of helping Vladimir is inhuman."

The Genins can be reached at: Parkhomenko 31, apt. 136; Leningrad 194018; USSR.

Forty-five members of the Matveyev family live in Israel, and three of their relatives Leah, Shmuel and Boris from the Litynska Kolkhoz in the Voronezh region recently requested permission to join their family. Subsequently, the kolkhoz leaders called a meeting of the entire membership which was addressed by two returning emigres, from Israel, and from the U.S., however, the Matveyevs were not dissuaded from their desire to live in Israel, which stems from their personal objections to working on Shabbat and Yom Kippur.

Following the meeting, the Matveyevs were suddenly accused of misappropriating kolkhoz property, but were, nevertheless, promised exit visas as long as the head of the kolkhoz would agree to sign a financial disclaimer. While the Matveyevs went to the kolkhoz leadership for the necessary documents, their home was searched and the missing equipment was discovered in the adjacent yard. Realizing that it was quite impossible for the Matveyevs to smuggle heavy equipment to Israel, the accusations were withdrawn. There are no longer any impediments to their departure.

Professor Anatoly Raben, a new olah from Moscow, who suffered 10 years in the gulag, has written an appeal on behalf of his daughter, Lena, 32, her husband Vladimir Turkel'taub, 34, and their son Aleksandr, 9. While the Rabens and their eldest daughter were granted exit visas in March, Lena's family were refused on the spurious grounds of "regime considerations" allegedly because Revolt Turkel'taub, Vladimir's father, had access to state secrets eight years ago. (Vladimir has not lived with his father for 14 years.)

AUGUST 25

Alexi Lein, the 16-year-old son of former prisoner of Zion, Evgeny Lein, a mathematician and Irina Lein, a bio-chemist, sent the following appeal to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet: "On July 6, I appealed to Leningrad Ovir for an exit visa in order to be reunited with my sister in Israel. On August 13, the inspector of the Leningrad Ovir refused my exit permit and declared: 'Children up to the age of 18 can depart from the USSR as a rule only if accompanied by their parents.' 'I would be very happy to depart

with my parents for Israel, but they are being held against their will in the USSR since 1978 without being informed about the terms of their refusal. I can't wait until my 18th birthday, because when I become 18, I'll be mobilized into the Soviet army which can only lead to an indefinite period of refusal. I see my father's example before my eyes. He has been deprived of an exit visa on the pretext of "secrecy" for work 20 years ago. When I became 16 on July 6, I received my own passport. My parents consented to my departure to reunite with my elder sister, Nehama Lein Levinov in Jerusalem with their blessings..." Alexei was only 7 years old when his family first applied for an exit visa.

AUGUST 26

Following the publication in a Soviet weekly *Noyoye Vremya* on July 10, of an interview with Rudolf Kuznetsov, the head of All-Union Ovir in which he cited improved opportunities for emigration for Soviet Jews, a group of Jewish activists have drawn attention to the weaknesses inherent in the Soviet emigration policy in a letter to Mikhail Gorbachev and Andrei Gromyko:

"For many Jews wishing to leave the Soviet Union for Israel, Kuznetsov's interview constituted yet another mockery. What kind of 'democratic changes' regarding emigration could be talk about when Ovir still does not recognize the right of people to live in their historic homeland? Reunification of families was the only valid reason for emigration cited by Mr. Kuznetsov and the democratic changes mentioned by him were based on the fact that now 'even' sisters and brothers can be considered close relatives."

"Questions connected with refusals based on secrecy considerations were not mentioned at all, although in reality it is this very issue where arbitrariness rules. We demand that a competent commission be formed to determine the exact periods of validity for secrecy considerations with decisions in writing and an equitable process for appeal."

The signatories included: Leonid and Kira Volvovskiy, Nabesha Ratner Magarik, Igor Blank, Grigory Orinberg, Labov and Mikhail Losiev, Igor Chernov-Shvarts, Arkady Goldman.

AUGUST 28

Deeply distressed by the death of refusenik Yuri Shpeizman 55, in Vienna en route to Israel to be reunited with his daughter whom he hadn't seen for more than a decade and to see his grandsons born in Israel, Jewish activists in Leningrad decided to honour his memory 30 days after his death with a demonstration on June 10. (The demonstrators were arrested, and subsequently fined or sentenced.) Reacting to their demonstration, an article appeared in *Smena*, a newspaper published by the Leningrad Young Communist League, titled, "No Need to Get Excited."

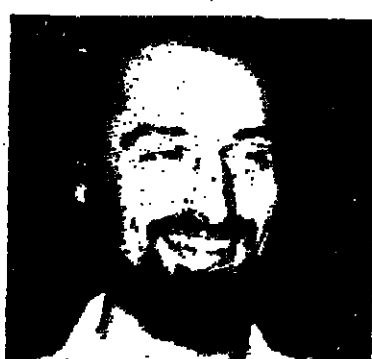
The article acknowledges that glasnost has given an opportunity to the "enemies of the people" to demonstrate against the state, but also gives everyone the freedom to deal with those elements and place them on trial. Those who think applying for emigration is not a crime are wrong, says the article. Leaving the country, the author states, is a betrayal of the motherland.

SEPTEMBER 1

Galina Lifshitz, who has been on hunger strikes repeatedly in recent months in a desperate attempt to obtain exit visas for her family, sent an appeal to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, on the eve of his meeting with Eduard Shevardnadze,



Alex Lein...an appeal to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.



Alexander Kholimansky....demonstrated despite a ban.

the Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs. For many years the Lifshitz family has appealed to countless Soviet officials as well as to the Presidium of the Soviet Academy of Sciences with the request that regime restrictions imposed on Boris Lifshitz by the Institute of Chemical Physics be withdrawn. These restrictions have made it impossible for the Lifshitzs to obtain exit visas to Israel for the past eight-and-a-half years.

All their appeals have been ignored. Only after the Lifshitz family, including Galina, 40, a philologist, Boris, 59, a physicist, and their son Konstantin, 16, resorted to a family hunger strike (in rotation) for 2 months, was a special commission appointed at the Academy of Sciences to reconsider Boris's status and concluded that "regime considerations" could be removed. However, the President of the Academy of Sciences, Academician Guri Marchuk has, thus far, refrained from approving the decision. Galina Lifshitz has decided to resume her hunger strike pending a positive decision by the Academy of Sciences.

SEPTEMBER 6

Moscow refuseniks, Professor Alexander Lerner and Col. Lev Ovsishcher (originally from Minsk) initiated a memorial assembly in a Moscow park to honour the memory of outstanding Yiddish writers who were ruthlessly murdered during the Stalinist purges. During the black years of Soviet Jewry, the liquidation of all Jewish cultural institutions began following the assassination of Solomon Mikhoels, a distinguished Yiddish actor and director of the Moscow Jewish theatre, in Minsk on January 13, 1948. Among those whose memory is being honoured in Moscow are: Peretz Markish, Itzik

Fefer, David Bergelson, Samuel Halkin and Ellyahu Spivak. They were some of 23 leading Yiddish writers, poets, and intellectuals who were sentenced to death and executed in the basement of Moscow's Lubyanka Prison on August 12, 1952.

SEPTEMBER 7

Alexander Lerner celebrated his 74th birthday in Moscow. In his 16th year of refusal, Prof. Lerner, a cyberneticist of international reputation and a leading Jewish activist, is still denied the right to be reunited with his daughter Sonia, and granddaughters in Israel. After applying for an exit visa in September, 1971, Professor Lerner was dismissed from all his elected positions and his name was deleted from his scientific publications in the Soviet Union. Professor Lerner began conducting weekly seminars for refusenik-scientists in 1972. The seminar has been devoted mainly to the use of mathematical methods in medicine and biology.

Jewish activists, including Yosef Begun, Semion Yantovsky and Lev Ovsishcher were warned by the Moscow Soviet that if they held a demonstration against anti-Semitism on Sept. 13 it would be viewed as a provocative act. They were read a new regulation stating that demonstrations would be forbidden in the centre of Moscow; at other sites permission would be required in advance. Former prisoner of Zion, Vladimir Stepat, in refusal for more than 17 years, commented: "The cancellation of the demonstration was a step backwards for democratization." In *Vechernyaya Moskva*, on the same day, an article appeared denouncing the proposed demonstration, stating it would lead to

greater anti-Semitism and enmity between people.

Former prisoner of Zion, Yosef Begun, 55, a refusenik for 16 years, and his wife, Inna were informed that they had been granted exit visas. While jubilant, he expressed concern "about the thousands of other Soviet Jews awaiting exit visas to Israel."

Irina and Victor Brailovsky were also informed that they have been given permission to leave for Israel after a 15-year struggle. They will arrive in Israel with their children, Dalia, 13, Leonid, 26, his wife Elena and their baby David Yosef, together with Irina's mother, Fania Fefer. Both prominent scientists who were barred from working in their professions, Victor, 52, a mathematician, conducted scientific seminars for refusenik-scientists and was the editor of "Jews in the USSR," and underground publications on Jewish culture, history and religion. As a result of his activities, he was arrested in 1980 and subsequently sentenced to 5 years internal exile in Siberia.

SEPTEMBER 8

In Moscow, leading Jewish activists, Elena and Vladimir Frenka, who first applied to repatriate to Israel 17 years ago, were granted exit visas today. Vladimir's grandfather, Felix Shapiro compiled the first Hebrew-Russian dictionary. Vladimir, 52, an engineer, barred from working in his profession, was active in the campaign to revive Jewish culture in the Soviet Union.

SEPTEMBER 10

A letter was received in Israel today in Hebrew from former prisoner of Zion, electronics eng. Roald (Alik) Zelichenok. He writes: "Since my release from prison, I haven't been able to find any employment — not as an engineer nor as programmer, not as a nightwatchman, and even more so, not as a scientist. Officially I am a parasite and being a parasite is very dangerous here. One can be punished by up to 2 years imprisonment. My dream hasn't changed..." Alik Zelichenok and his wife Galina have sought expatriation in Israel since 1978. One of the best Hebrew teachers in Leningrad, Alik was charged with "defaming the Soviet regime" in June, 1985, and he was released earlier this year after

serving more than half his sentence.

Permission to emigrate was granted this month to Col. Lev Ovsishcher, 68, a leading activist from Minsk and a retired army colonel, who first applied for an exit visa in 1971. Lev was part of a group of Jewish officers in Minsk who campaigned actively against anti-Semitism in the USSR. He has participated in annual memorial ceremonies at the site of the massacre of 5,000 Jews in the Minsk ghetto in 1943. Lev's wife Tatiana Ulanovskaya will be reunited with her son in Israel.

Other refuseniks granted exit visas include:

In Leningrad: former prisoner of Zion, Vladimir Lifshitz with his wife, Anna and children Masha and Boris who first applied for exit visas in 1981. Vladimir, 45, a mathematician was arrested on January 8, 1986 and charged with "anti-Soviet slander." Long-term refuseniks Ida and Absa Taratata (since 1973); Yosef Radomyslsky (since 1981) Grigory Vasserman, Mikhail Makuskin. In Moscow, Elena and Arkady Mai (since 1974); Elena Matlina and Semion Yantovsky (since 1978); Ilya Apterman, 99 years old (since 1981); Emanuel Smeliansky (since 1972); Sergei Dychkov-Brenner (since 1980); Alla and Lev Sud; Grigory Danovich; Inna and Arkady Levinov; Gedli and Boris Kua (since 1974); Valery Lerner.

In Erevan: Evgenia Palanker (since 1976); In Bendery: Moisey Liberman (since 1976); In Vilna: Bella and Benjamin Lifshitz (since 1971).

SEPTEMBER 11

In an open letter, a group of young Leningrad activists wrote: "We, the signatories of this letter, happened to be born in the USSR, we became citizens of this country automatically and we still fulfill the duties imposed on us by this status. However, we are Jews and we have a national homeland. We wish to bind our fate with the fate of the part of our nation which shook off the burden of two thousand years of the diaspora."

In their requests to Soviet officials, the activists demanded that the criteria for submitting an application to leave the USSR based on reunification of families be invalidated. They called upon Mikhail Gor-

bachov "to take a personal interest in bringing the regulations on leaving the USSR into conformity with international conventions and to assist us in realizing our legal right of living in our own homeland."

The authors of this appeal were subsequently called into OVR and told to bring invitations from Israel (not limited to first degree relatives), to facilitate gaining exit visas. Prior to their open letter they were even denied the necessary forms to initiate emigration procedures. The signatories, ranging between the ages of 20-25 include: Boris Shpeizman, Inna Briskina, Grigory Tsioniskil, Semyon Dyskin, Boris Dubrov, Danil Romanovsky, Alexander Gorfunkel and Arkady Dynia.

Former prisoner of Zion, Lev Elbert and his wife, Inna (and son, Carmi, and brother Mikhail) who earlier this year conducted a 47-day hunger strike in support of their right to repatriate to Israel, were granted exit visas.

SEPTEMBER 13

Alexander (Sasha) Kholimansky, 37 a former prisoner of Zion, and his wife, Anna, 27, planned to demonstrate the following day for their right to repatriate to Israel. The demonstration opposite the Foreign Ministry in Moscow together with Sasha's parents, Rosa Chernyak, 70 and Grigory Kholimansky, 78, is a daring step, in light of new regulations banning demonstrations in the centre on Moscow.

Sasha, a computer engineer, has been in refusal for 9 years, during which time he served a one-and-a-half year sentence in prisons and labour camps for his Hebrew teaching. While imprisoned, he was on hunger strike for eight months.

The Kholimansky's exit visa is being blocked by Anna's father who refuses to sign a financial disclaimer for them. If their demonstration is unsuccessful, Anna, a computer programmer, will launch a hunger strike on October 18 despite the fact that she is a nursing mother. Anna and Sasha have a four-month-old daughter, Dora. Last week, Sasha's brother Mikhail Kholimansky, his wife, Oksana, and son Maxim arrived in Israel. On September 11, Sasha received a letter from the Moscow authorities stating that under the Soviet constitution, citizens enjoy the right to demonstrate in support of, but not against, Soviet policy.



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THE WAR THAT NO SIDE CAN WIN

Iraq expected a quick victory over Iran. That was seven years ago. Today the conflict has assumed global implications. AFP correspondents Laurent Chevallier and Andrew J. Sherry consider the stakes.

SEVEN YEARS after Iraqi tanks surged into the vast plain of Iranian Khuzestan, the Gulf war has swollen from a regional border dispute into a conflict with global repercussions. A UN Security Council cease-fire resolution passed on July 20 hangs in limbo despite the recent mission to Tehran and Baghdad of the UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar. The fighting, largely suspended during his four-day Gulf visit, resumed with a vengeance after his departure, as both capitals reaffirmed hard-line stands on a peace settlement. Meanwhile the death toll — which military experts set at one to 1.2 million total — continues to climb. The war, fuelled largely by a long-running dispute between Tehran and Baghdad over border lines along the Shatt-al-Arab water-

way, began to take on much larger dimensions in April 1984. At that time Iraqi jets began attacking tankers in international waters of the Gulf in an effort to choke the oil exports that subsidize Iran's war machine. Iran retaliated by attacking two tankers owned by Kuwait, which supports Baghdad, and in the ensuing three years some 300 tankers and cargo ships fell prey to Iraqi or Iranian attacks in the Gulf.

INCREASING concern over the threat to oil supplies has now drawn several of the world's industrialized countries into the conflict. In the last few months, both the Soviet Union and the United States have increased their naval presence in the Gulf region — the U.S. to the point of escorting Kuwaiti-owned

tankers — and five European countries have decided to send warships. By mid-September, 70 to 80 foreign warships were in or on their way to the region, as Tehran and Baghdad continued to play out their rivalry with air and sea attacks.

Iran and Iraq's differences extend to include the date the war started. Baghdad claims Iran began the conflict on September 4, 1980, when it subjected Iraqi border areas in what became the central front to artillery bombardments.

Tehran sets the date at September 22, when Iraqi forces invaded along a 300-km. front and advanced rapidly across the sun-parched plain of the southeastern Tigris-Euphrates valley, while Iraqi warplanes pounded Tehran Airport.



Ayatollah Khomeini



Saddam Hussein (Camera Press)

IRAQ EXPECTED a quick victory but — after two years of war with a country whose population is triple that of its own 15 million — announced in June 1982 that it was pulling back to what it considers international borders. Iran continues to occupy some territory in south-east Iraq along the Shatt-al-Arab waterway and Faw Peninsula, and claims to control land in northeast Iraq's Kurdistan.

The 1,100-km. front, which runs from the head of the Gulf north to the Turkish border, has been relatively quiet in the last few months against the backdrop of an escalating air and sea war. The ground war has been marked by intermittent attacks in which — according to communiques from both sides — a few square kilometres of strategic bor-

der heights were seized. The Iraqi military command is deploying its land forces mainly defensively, and seems to have given up for the moment large-scale operations against Iranian-occupied land. And since its offensives early this year, Iran — known early in the war for costly "human wave" militia assaults on Iraqi positions — has not tried to widen its grip on Iraqi territory.

Iraqi military pressure increasingly consists of air strikes against the Gulf oil terminals and tankers that Iran depends on to export its oil. Iraq, whose sole Gulf port was shut down by advancing Iranian forces, pumps its oil through pipelines across Turkey and Saudi Arabia. Iraq's air force — made up mainly of Soviet-built MiG and French Mirage jets — dominates that of Iran,

which consists largely of U.S.-built F-4 Phantoms supplied before the fall of the Shah in 1979 and starved for spare parts, according to military experts.

IRANIAN RETALIATION consists mainly of shelling Iraqi border municipalities — notably the south-eastern port city of Basra — and, according to regional shipping and insurance sources, attacking with gunboats the merchant vessels of countries it accuses of backing Iraq. It also continues to support the Kurdish guerrillas it says are operating against Baghdad's troops in northern Iraq. The war has spread to touch other countries in the region which had avoided openly taking sides. After three missiles hit Kuwait this year, Kuwait blamed Iran for at least one of the strikes.

Saudi Arabia, meanwhile, was drawn into a war of words with Tehran over the Mecca violence of July 31, when several hundred Iranian pilgrims died during a demonstration in Islam's holiest city. Iran is faced with a growing current of isolation from the Arab world, a trend openly backed only by Syria. However, last month's Arab League ministerial meeting showed that Arab resentment of what is portrayed as Persian expansionism does not automatically translate into diplomatic breaks with Tehran. Iraq, which has shown signs of wanting to get out of the war since 1982, has latched firmly onto Resolution 598, announcing it has accepted the measure on the condition that Iran do the same.

But Baghdad has shown no inclination for further compromise.

Since the UN secretary general's visit, Iraqi leaders have renewed calls for the measure to be applied "to the letter," starting with a ceasefire. Iran — which has officially neither accepted nor rejected the resolution — continues to demand that an international body identify and punish Iraq as the aggressor in the war before implementation of any truce.

ANALYSTS have suggested that Iranian leaders may be reluctant to advocate peace in the contentious arena of Tehran politics, where officials have boosted their careers by vowing to continue the fighting until the downfall of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The war reportedly has a wide base of popular support in Iran. As for the UN Security Council members, it is by no means certain that they can extend the fragile unanimity they found in passing the resolution to include sanctions — most likely an arms embargo — against Iran.

China, which denies reports that it is a major supplier of arms to Iran, and the Soviet Union, which is Iraq's leading arms provider, have both declined to come out in favour of sanctions. Tehran has also demonstrated its ability to acquire arms, even from the U.S., the leading proponent of an arms embargo. Seven years of war have demonstrated that neither side is capable of decisive victory. But neither international diplomatic efforts nor the largest armada of warships assembled in a region since the end of the Korean War have persuaded the Gulf rivals to lay down their arms.

Friends, but for how long?

INCONGRUOUS accords between rival factions, unholy alliances forged for the sake of expediency, are more often the rule than the exception in the mad whirl of Lebanese politics and civil strife.

The recent agreement between two such diametrically-opposed factions as the Amal Shi'ite organization and the PLO to end Amal's siege of the Palestinian refugee camps would appear to be a case in point.

At first glance, the Amal movement stands to lose most from letting the Palestinians off the hook. Similarly, Syria, Amal's main backer in the Lebanese arena, does not appear to gain anything from the agreement, especially in view of the discord between President Hafez al-Assad and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Yet it was Amal leader Nabih Berri who, at the end of August, announced the proposals that formed the basis of the agreement, which was signed just two weeks later at what was only the second meeting between the various parties involved.

And Berri himself would not have dared to voice such proposals without the prior consent, if not active encouragement, of the Syrians, however improbable that might seem.

The PLO, on the other hand, has acclaimed the agreement as a great victory. The organization had already proved its resilience and fighting capabilities during the course of the camps war, which began in the face of concerted opposition.

Conversely, Amal's dogged blockade of the camps, which continued after the cease-fire, placed severe restrictions on the Palestinians, and particularly the PLO.

Only women, children and old people were allowed in and out of the camps, in order to purchase food and other essentials. Attempts to smuggle in arms and fighting men were, for the most part, thwarted by the Amal guards around the camps.

UNDER THE terms of the agreement, the numerous Amal checkpoints are to be replaced by observer posts manned by representatives of the Palestinian popular committees, which run the camps, Amal, the Lebanese Army and the Syrians.

In return, the PLO is to pull back its fighters from the strategic hilltop positions east of Sidon that it captured at the height of the war. The PLO's command of the coastal highway to Beirut had been a thorn in Amal's side, effectively cutting direct links between the Shi'ite community in the south and their northern brethren.

A withdrawal from these positions would seem a small price for the PLO to pay for the lifting of the siege and other benefits. These include free passage to and from the Rashidiah

David Rudge on the pact that has ended the fighting between the PLO and the Amal Shi'ites in Lebanon

refugee camp near Tyre, formerly a base for terrorist operations against Israel; the right of the Palestinian camp committees to meet in Rashidiah; and the reconstruction of buildings destroyed in the camps war.

It was also agreed to allow the return of all displaced persons, mainly Palestinians, to their homes, and on a phased exchange of prisoners held by both sides.

Perhaps more important, on a political level, was the recognition the talks and subsequent agreement bestowed on the PLO, a mere five months after the Lebanese parliament repudiated the 1969 Cairo accord, which had effectively given Arafat's organization exterritorial status in Lebanon.

OSTENSIBLY, the agreement was reached between PLO representatives and members of the Front for the Unification and Liberation of Lebanon, itself composed of Amal, Druze, Sunnis and the Lebanese Communist Party, all of whom owe allegiance, in some form or another, to Syria.

The negotiations were led, on behalf of the Front, by the head of the Sidon Sunni, Mustafa Sa'ad, who has close ties with the Palestinians, and especially the PLO. In essence, however, the agreement is between Amal, the PLO and pro-Syrian Palestinian factions.

What, then, are the motives behind Amal's and Syria's decision to promulgate and subsequently ratify an agreement ending the siege? And what, if anything, do the two sides with no love for the PLO stand to gain?

According to Israeli observers, the agreement was born out of necessity, another of those temporary expediencies that outweigh long-term objectives.

Syria, the driving force behind both the cease-fire and the latest agreement, found that the camps war and continuing siege had created a bad impression in the Arab world.

Sympathies lay with the Palestinians, women and children as well as PLO fighters who died in the bombardments, or as a result of starvation and related diseases in the blockaded camps.

The suffering of the refugees also created a dilemma of divided loyalties among pro-Syrian Palestinian groups.

At the same time, according to the observers, Syria did not want to see another of its proxies,

Amal, exhaust its military strength on maintaining a siege that had failed to produce any decisive results.

Under the terms of the agreement, Amal will have its lifeline to and from Beirut re-opened, and with the lifting of the siege will be able to divert its energies to tackling the myriad of other problems, not least the growing strength of the rival Iranian-backed Hizbullah Shi'ite organization.

THERE IS also another factor, which Middle East expert Yossi Olmert has dubbed "the politics of starvation." Olmert, head of the Syria and Lebanon desk at the Dayan Centre of Tel Aviv University, noted that the ongoing siege had placed a tremendous strain on the limited financial resources of the Amal movement.

"Amal is by no means a rich organization, unlike the Hizbullah, which is financed by Iran, and the PLO, with its vast monetary resources," said Olmert.

This situation had been exacerbated by the worsening economic crisis in Lebanon. Amal could not look to Syria, with its own grave economic problems, for financial support, and therefore had probably come to the conclusion that the only recourse was to cut its losses.

At the same time, the agreement gave Amal the responsibility of dealing with any problems in future relations between the Palestinians and Lebanese residents, particularly the predominantly Shi'ite population in the south, which suffered under the PLO's reign over the region prior to the 1982 Lebanon War.

In its broadest sense, this clause gives Amal the right to continue to control the activities of the PLO outside the camps.

As another observer put it, if the PLO remains in the camps, Amal has nothing to fear and nothing to lose.

THE QUESTION, however, is just how much freedom of action Amal will allow the PLO and other Palestinian groups, and whether this will lead to an upsurge of terrorist operations against Israel and the security zone in South Lebanon.

Olmert thinks this is unlikely. He is also highly sceptical about the agreement's ending the siege of the camps and the ability of the various parties to implement the accord.

"I don't think Amal will let the PLO have a free hand. On the contrary, to do so would be like committing suicide," he said. "I believe there will be a lot of problems in implementing this agreement, problems which might eventually prove to be insurmountable."

"I can't see Amal and the Palestinians staying friends for long, not in a country where the prevailing attitude is 'What's mine is mine and what's yours is also mine,'" he declared.

Elaine Ruth Fletcher reports on a new study

'Realism' is key word in Jordan economic plan

THE JORDANIAN domestic economy has been experiencing a mild upswing, a trend which should provide a reassuring element of stability to the political scene both on the West Bank and inside Jordan.

A five-year development plan by the Jordanians anticipating a steady increase in growth between 1986 to 1990 appears to have come close to its goals in the first year, as the figures become available.

That's the outlook provided by The Economist Intelligence Unit in a special report, "Jordan to 1990" and in a report on the Jordanian economy for the first half of 1987. The Economist Intelligence Unit is a subsidiary of the London-based journal, *The Economist*.

Growth in 1986 ran at roughly 2.4 per cent, just under the planned rate of 2.9 per cent, according to figures recently released by the Jordanian Ministry of Planning. Jordan's five-year plan "anticipates steadily increasing growth rates, averaging out to a five per cent a year increase in Gross Domestic Product by 1990. The Economist forecast, however, says that a still "very respectable" 3.5 per cent average growth rate is more likely.

Still, despite the encouraging figures, some worrisome structural problems continue to plague the economy, problems that still could prove politically destabilizing in the long run.

First and foremost, per capita growth has declined for three straight years, as the rate of population increase continues to outstrip the overall domestic growth rate.

"GDP per capita will continue to decline for a year or two yet," the 1987 Economist report predicts. In general, any longer-term decline in per capita growth, fuelled by population increases, poses a serious political time bomb.

Unemployment is another by-product of Jordan's spiralling population. With about half the population below the age of 15, the single

"most important issue" in Jordan today is the rate and likely increase in unemployment. *The Economist* states.

The unemployment problem "is of particular concern because of the effect it could have on political stability," the report adds, noting that the political implications of unemployment are especially acute because more and more young people in the ranks of the educated classes are unable to find jobs.

About 4.8 per cent of the labour force was unemployed in January, 1986.

OTHER CHRONIC structural problems also plague the Jordanian economy, the reports note.

Defence expenditure, amounting to 25 per cent of the budget or more, has hindered the development process and fuelled the budget deficit. Jordan's lack of access to Mediterranean ports has detracted from her efforts to develop into a regional trade centre. At the same time, the instability arising out of the Arab-Israeli conflict has deterred private enterprise from investing in industrial growth. Meanwhile, the Jordanian penchant for imported consumer goods has worsened the balance of trade.

The absence of local energy sources combined with the inability of Jordan to feed itself has further strained the balance of trade. *The Economist* says.

Jordan's small economy, strategic location and lack of energy resources also leaves it both economically and politically dependent on other Arab states. For instance, in 1985, nearly 30 per cent of the Jordanian budget came from foreign grants. These grants give Saudi Arabia, in particular, a large degree of influence over certain aspects of Jordanian policy.

Jordan has also experienced a growing dependence on foreign loans, increasingly from Arab banks. And much of the Jordanian economy is propped up by the re-

mittances of Jordanians working abroad, mainly in the Gulf states. In fact, there are almost as many Jordanians employed abroad as the 450,000 working at home. The salaries of expatriates make up the largest single source of foreign currency in the Jordanian economy.

Politically, Jordan also finds herself in a vulnerable position. Population and industrial centres are so vulnerable to attack from Syria in the north or Israel in the west "that it is patently in Jordan's best interests never to have to fight another war again," *The Economist* states.

And while Hussein's personal position is secure, there are nagging concerns about his successor.

JORDAN HAS, however, benefited from some of the regional instability. *The Economist* says. For instance, many Arab and foreign regional company headquarters have moved from Beirut to Amman over the past 10 years. Jordan also offers a "viable and safe" overland transit alternative to the troubled Gulf waterways. The level of Jordanian transit trade has more than doubled as a result of the Gulf war as Iraq has sought a safe route for its imports.

And Jordan is reaping new trading partners in the Far East thanks to her convenient geographical location. For instance, Jordan's largest bank, the Arab Bank, is entering China to play a prominent role in financing projects over the next 10 years. *The Economist* notes.

Jordan is also the world's third largest phosphate exporter, and there exists a great potential to export phosphates as well as other minerals to the Far East.

Manufacturing enterprises remain small, reflecting the small economic base and the tendency of the well-endowed private sector to invest in real estate or trade.

(The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Litani)

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FEATURES

The lonely messengers

THE ALONENESS of the Jewish people seems to be an inevitable, existential fact throughout its history. It first drew the attention of Balaam, the great prophet of the Gentiles, when he described Israel as "a people that dwells alone and shall not be reckoned among the nations" (Numbers 23:9). Yet, according to the rabbis in the Midrash it goes back much earlier. "Abraham the Hebrew" (Genesis 14:13), they interpreted: "Hebrew" from *ever*, meaning one side, to convey the idea that the "whole world was on one side and Abraham was on the other side," alone. To this day, even after Israel has been accepted as a bona fide member of the "family of nations," it still often finds itself very much alone, as it is not part of any geographical, ethnic or political bloc of nations.

Aloneness often causes a feeling of loneliness, of being abandoned and deserted, helpless and defenceless. On the other hand there are times when it brings on a sense of detachment from the rest of the world, an attitude of separateness, of "who cares?" and the false pride of what Sir William Goschen called "splendid isolation."

In his final farewell poems, Moses, who perhaps knew Israel better than anyone else, dwells on the existential fact of Israel's solitude, but he also qualifies it. Dealing with it twice (Deuteronomy 32:12; 33:28), he seems to view the aloneness of Israel as an asset which should cause neither forlorn despair nor withdrawal from the world, like Albania. Israel, while alone in this world is still very much a part of it. The best aspirations and dreams, as expressed by its prophets and liturgists (i.e. on its high holidays), are not confined to the particular needs of the Jewish people, but are of a universal nature.

Israel is indeed alone, but not abandoned. The phrase in Moses' farewell poem (ibid., 32:12) *hashem b'adam yehenu*, rendered in most translations as "the Lord alone did lead him," was understood differently by many a Jewish commentator. They (i.e. K'l Yikar and Samson Raphael Hirsch) read it as meaning that the Lord led [Israel] to be alone and that being apart is the appointed fate of Israel.

History proved the veracity of this interpretation. Jews remained apart in their particularity, while being the carriers of a universal message. They would not leave the rest of the world, nor would they be left alone, even if they wished it.

LOSS OF POLITICAL independence, culminating in the burning of its religious and national centre in the year 70 (or 69) CE, could have

easily spelled the end of the Jewish people. More than a million people were killed in battle or massacred in the endless revolts carried out by the surviving Jews against the mighty Roman empire. Rome at that time conquered and ruled a major part of the known world, and yet stamped with special pride coins that read "Judaea Capta." Jerusalem the holy city of the Jews was subsequently razed to the ground and re-named "Aelia Capitolina." Eretz Israel, the land of Israel for centuries, was re-named by Hadrian Palestine, though there was no vestige left of the ancient Philistines who had inhabited part of the land in the distant past.

Apparently any name that would serve to blot out the name of Judea or of Israel, would do. It is also noteworthy that only few of the Roman victories in their numerous wars around the world were deemed important enough to merit the erection of a special "Arch of Triumph" in the Forum in Rome. Yet, this singular honour was awarded to Titus as conqueror of Judea, adding

carriers of a truly unique message. It was now condensed into one word: Tora, containing a story and a law, a guide for day-to-day life and a promise for the future. The message which they felt was theirs, was not to be carried by a caste of priests or a select elite of saints, but by an entire people: Israel.

The message of Tora was not held as a cherished tribal treasure, but viewed as something which might be vital to the very existence of the world. Generations of Jews found in it, as they studied and probed it, secrets of the past, present and future of the universe, as conceived and designed by God at the moment of Creation. Not only did it create the world and humankind according to the blueprint laid out in the Tora, but he also issued detailed instructions on how they should operate. The guidebook which contains these instructions was entrusted to the people of Israel to safeguard and to share the divine message with the rest of the world. They had to walk a tightrope. On the one hand, they had to realize the vital importance of

The Jew, up until modern times, lived in a spiritual world of his own, no matter where his actual residence was and where he paid his taxes.

Jewish identity was summed up in the following succinct formula, current in medieval Jewish pietistic literature: *kudsha brich-hu, oraita ve-Israel had hu*, "The Holy One blessed-be-He, the Tora and Israel are one." Not three separate entities held together, but one comprised of three parts. Remove any part of the three, and the validity of the one would be challenged. If there was no God, there would be no Tora or Israel. If there was no Tora, how were we to know about the existence of either God or Israel? And finally, if there was no Israel, who would be the people to transmit to the world God's message incorporated in the Tora?

This formula of God-Tora-Israel represented the identity and unity of the Jewish people for many centuries. The "outside" world was there, of course, very often even encroaching on the enclave of the Jew in his self-imposed ghetto, but the life of the Jew remained self-contained and self-fulfilled by the awareness of the great transcendent all inclusive One, made up of God-Tora-Israel.

This cohesive unity, proclaimed in the Bible and buttressed in the teachings of countless rabbis and preachers in the vast talmudic and midrashic literature, shaped the Jews as a people alone which is also an *Am Olam*, a people of *Olam* in the dual connotation of the word *olam*, representing both time and space. "Am Olam" — an eternal people in time and *Am Olam* — a people dispersed in space throughout the world, yet always one, in time and space, focusing on being one with God and Tora.

Jews saw themselves as *Am Olam* in yet a third sense, as a people of *Olam*, a people of the world. A people who lives fully within the world, always open to it and caring deeply for its physical and moral well-being. The Jew throughout history always carried the world in his heart and on his shoulders. The Tora too is described in Jewish liturgy as a source of the life of *olam* which the Lord has implanted into us ("v'chaye olam nata b'otchem"), life of *olam* which is imbedded in us may signify eternal life, but also the life of the world in which we live in. Being apart from the world, Jews remained nonetheless very much part of it. They lived in the world and the world lived in them.

This week's Tora portion is ha-azinu (Deuteronomy 32:1-52).

Rabbi Peli is the Blaisie Professor of Jewish thought and literature, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Tora Today/Pinchas H. Peli

to the glory of Rome the sight of ritual objects being carried away from the Temple by Jewish fighters taken into captivity.

At that point, the Jewish people might easily have vanished, as did many other nations. It would have left behind a beautiful literary heritage which might have enriched libraries down the ages, alongside other classical heirlooms of the ancient world. This did not happen, however. The Jews did not disappear, neither did their creative spirit give up in the face of tremendous political, social and religious catastrophes.

Beaten physically, its Temple in ruins, its sons and daughters in chains and sold into slavery — the Jewish people found within itself the strength to rise from the ashes, to re-emerge spiritually with renewed vitality, moving its holy-of-holies into portable sanctuaries, in the form of houses of study. Until the Temple in Jerusalem would be rebuilt, the spirit of Judaism would live on and be cultivated within the tents of Tora which instilled in the people a sense of inner freedom, of which no tyrant and oppressor could rob them.

The age-old covenant in the ancient vision of its ancestors came to life again, but in an entirely new setting. The fact that the security of land and self-government were gone only served to strengthen the conviction of the people that they were the

their being chosen for that fateful mission. On the other, their vocation as bearers of the word of God to the world required of them a great deal of compassion and humility, often a readiness to sacrifice their lives.

NOT ALWAYS remembering clearly what the message was, a Jew, by his very being Jewish, always felt as a messenger on the move, a courier en route to a destination, ever impatient to reach it. This collective consciousness shaped the Jews as a people and trained them to accept, almost without protest, the ungrateful "rewards" for their unwavering, often unwanted, teachings of goodness and morality. Besides aloneness their "reward" often came in the form of special doses of inflicted suffering, discrimination and persecution.

Because of this unique role in history, the Jews saw themselves in much the same image they were seen by their neighbours, as a people apart. An outsider within the society in which he lived and helped build, contributing more than their proportionate share in blood and sweat. As an "outsider," sometimes even an "outcast," the Jew got used to being confined within the walls of a "ghetto," even when such did not exist physically. They made few efforts to break out into the open world. They did not aspire to fully "belong" to the gentile world and to be "reckoned among the nations."

What an unlovely year that was

WE VIEWERS — particularly those of us who, no doubt because of rampant anti-Semitism on the part of King Hussein, cannot get Jordan's foreign programme in the summer months — have just lived through a most appalling year, as far as television was concerned.

I haven't got the patience or the fortitude to check comparative statistics, so I am relying entirely on memory and impressions, but I think that Israel Television was strikebound by the coconuts or other workers, or was shut down because of lockouts by the belligerent management, for more nights than ever before in our history.

Furthermore, despite those screens showing nothing but the ITV signal and the time so often, nobody has offered us any remission on the huge amounts we pay for our licences. (Incidentally, the high fees were fixed in pre-advertising days on the basis that they were ITV's sole income, so they should come down now, except that nothing ever comes down in Israel.) Naturally, nobody ever bothered to explain to us what the strikes and lockouts were about.

I must admit, grudgingly, that some of the advertisements were very well done. They are the only indigenous works of imagination made for Israel television, as ITV has abandoned all pretence that it is trying to contribute to Israeli culture.

We have no dramas, comedies, satirical programmes or serials made in the Hebrew language in Israel, although obviously the encouragement of the cinematic arts should be a major responsibility of ITV.

Certain stereotypes are always used as excuses for the failure to do anything positive about film-making. One is that Israel is a small country; another is that Hebrew is an occult language; and the third is that the ITV budget is infinitesimal.

None of these arguments will wash. The present population of Israel, even without the Arabs in the territories, puts us far from bottom among the world's populations. With regard to budget, plenty of money flows in from those ads. As for Hebrew being a secret tongue, this applies to everything we do, and yet we manage to get around the problem.

The real reason why ITV discourages local talent is that the service is trapped in bureaucratic tangles and attitudes that have calcified over the years. Radical reforms are needed if our television is ever going to achieve, for example, what Australia and New Zealand, not noted for their cultural and artistic standards, are achieving.

THE ORIGIN of the problem, I think, is that Israel Television was

TELEREVIEW/Philip Gillon



Meni Pe'er



Rivka Michaeli

handed over for development 20 years ago to radio people, without the participation in its development of dramatists, actors and artists. The result is that our TV is really just filmed radio, and everything requiring talk is well done. Thus, the news has always been excellent, on a par with the news provided by any station in the world. And talk shows around the news, like *This is the Time* and *Moked*, have also been very good. But the concept of the camera as a tool for creative action has been minimal.

One would have expected good work to be done with classical music, so many Israelis having had such music in the cultural baggage they brought from Europe. At one time, particularly when Paul Salinger was alive, we got some remarkable classical music programmes, as well as some lovely ballet. We do not get these any more. One of the valid points made last week in the *Second Look* indictment of the Israel Philharmonic was that it virtually never performs for the nation via ITV. This is true, and it is a disgrace. But it is not only the IPO we miss: we get hardly any classical music at all, except for some perfunctory imports late at night. *Allegro* is great, but it is only a game show.

TRYING TO emphasize the positive, although I cannot eliminate the negative, I must admit that the pop music programmes and entertainment have always been very good, perhaps due to the early influence of Ralph Inbar, from Holland, one of the pioneers who helped to launch Israel television.

During the past year, Meni Pe'er and Rivka Michaeli have both kept us happy, interested and amused on Friday nights, and I trust that they will continue to do so in the New Year, despite changes in their department.

KOLBOTEK seems to have run out of steam, or out of subjects. Can it be that consumers are being treated a little less badly? It may be wishful thinking, but I seem to detect a slight

change in the attitudes of producers and sellers: they are moving at last in the direction of wanting to attract customers. For 40 years, buyers have been begging reluctant sellers to part with items held in stock, so naturally the treatment of consumers was inevitably contemptuous. It is conceivable that the control of inflation has made Israeli shopkeepers and producers more like their peers in the U.S. and England. Anyway, whatever the reason, we seem to have fewer grievances with which to run to Kolbotek.

The sports section had one of its best years, marred by the horrifying failure to cover Israel's Davis Cup tie in India. True, we lost, but there was high drama for TV behind the scenes in New Delhi, if not on the court itself. But I must say that the sports people, with limited budget and time, are really rendering yeoman service.

ONE OF OUR biggest gripes is about the poor quality of the imported plays, serials and comedies we get. Viewers wonder who, in his sane and proper mind, and in full possession of his senses, can have selected such junk. In making this complaint, it is possible that we may be unfair to whomever selects the films — what we see may reflect a decline in film-making for television in England.

Although my spies who can watch Jordan's foreign programme in the summer describe to me, singly and patronizingly, all the wonderful British products I am missing — the grass in the next and unattainable field is always tantalizingly greener — it seems to be abundantly clear that British film-making for television has declined enormously since the great days of the Seventies.

That this is so I know partly from writers in the English press, partly the evidence of my own eyes and ears. The British are now doing what the Americans were always correctly accused of doing: getting an idea for a series, and then churning out mass-produced packages according to a

formula. Plots are minimal, mere frameworks for that package. The freshness and originality with which the British managed to infuse all their work, whether they were making dramas, comedies or thrillers, has gone.

It may be only sour grapes, but I find it hard to believe that Jordan is finding better British material than we are getting.

THE AMERICANS, on the other hand, are doing much better than they have ever done. It is true that *Dynasty* is a candidate for the worst serial ever made — it far transcends *Dallas* and *Peyton Place* in the idiocy of its plot, the ineptitude of its direction and the lack of conviction of the actors.

With regard to the latter, one feels, as if it were palpable, their embarrassment at having to do what they are doing, and say what they are saying.

Someone once said that inside every fat woman there is a thin woman struggling to get out. One feels that inside every performer in *Dynasty* there is a genuine actor or actress trying to get an agonized message out to us:

"I know I should be ashamed of myself for doing this, I swear to you I'm only doing it for the money! I must have their tainted gold to pay alimony to my wife (or husband, in the case of Joan Collins), or to support my sick mother, or my cocaine habit, or whatever! But I assure you that I'm hating every minute of it!"

Linda Evans proves that she really can act when she gets out to Australia in *The Last Frontier*. Now that she's struck water and gold on her farm, I hope she'll be able to dress like Crystal — I can't get used to seeing her in those cowgirl outfits.

L.A. Law is really a very good series, with some intricate but credible plots, good characterization, crisp dialogue and ingenious legal problems. I have no idea what the practice of law is really like in Los Angeles — it strikes me as surprising that so large a firm of lawyers should not be specialists — but I find the presentation completely realistic and convincing.

In the last episode there were some great scenes, such as the valedictory address to the jury of the disturbed lawyer before he kills himself, and the speech of the black woman who wants to accept a deal proposed by the district attorney, just to make certain she won't go back to jail.

North and South is also better than most epics of this kind. And the American comedies, particularly *Family Ties*, have some of the qualities British comedies used to have.

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YERUSHALAYM CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE. ROSH HASHANA, Wed., Mincha 5:25, Arvit 6:00. Thurs. Shabbat 7:20, Mincha 5:25, Fri. Mincha 5:20, Sat. Shabbat 8:30, Mincha 12:45 4:50. Maasiv 6:10. Hazzan: Asher Haimovitz.

WORLD COUNCIL OF SYNAGOGUES. Congregation, 4 Agrot, ROSH HASHANA, Wed., Thurs. Mincha 5:30, Shabbat 8:30, Arvit 5:40. Fri. Mincha 5:25, Sat. Shabbat 8:30. Dvar Tora: Rabbi Dr. Yosef Green. Hazzan: Haimovitz.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE. Jewish Institute of Religion (Reform), 13 King David St. ROSH HASHANA, Wed., 6 p.m. Thurs. 10 a.m. SHABBAT, 10 a.m.

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SIR ISAAC AND LADY EDITH WOLFSON MUSEUM at Heichal Shalom: Special Exhibitions: Kovno Ghetto, images from Hidden Camera, photographed by Zvi Kadushin. High Holidays Exhibition. The Making of a Shofar. Permanent exhibition of Judaica. Diorama Room: History of Jewish People.

MISHKENOT SHA'ANANIM. Exhibition: Paintings 1988/87 by Ibrahim Nubani (5.9-16.10). Fisher Hall, Sun., Thurs. 5-8; Wed., Fri., 10-11; Tue. 10-6; Mon. closed. Tel. 224321.

SKIRBALL MUSEUM of Biblical Archaeology of the Hebrew University, College, 13 King David St. Tel. 203333. Visiting hours: Sun-Thurs. 10-4, Fri. Sat. and Hol. 10-2.

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Saturday, September 26
Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Maccabi, 2 Ben Sir, 227273; (evening) Kupat Holim Clalit, Roma, 523191; (day and evening) Belsam, Salah Eddin, 72315; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Dar Adawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: (day and evening) Bess, 68 Frishman, 237326; Ziva, 52 Ezel, Hadiva neighbourhood, 379403; Be'er-Sheva-Kfar Sava: No details available.

Netanya: Trupha, 2 Herzl, 28558.

Kiryat Ata: Segal, 53 Hatzmaut, Kiyat Ata, 441280.

Haifa: Norda, 13 Norda, 664039.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Wednesday, September 23
Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (pediatrics), Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, obstetrics, surgery, ophthalmology), Hadassah Scopus (orthopedics), Bikur Holim (E.N.T.). Tel Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics, internal, surgery).

Thursday, September 24
Jerusalem: (day) Mt. of Olives, 287480; (evening) Mt. of Olives, 287480; (day and evening) Belsam, Salah Eddin, 72315; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Dar Adawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: (day and evening) Montefiore, 9 Sderot Yehudit, (near Beit Kalka), 253710; Shehar (Brands), 27 Pirkes, 441449.

Be'er-Sheva-Kfar Sava: No details available.

Netanya: Haneasi, 38 Sderot Weizmann, 23639.

Kiryat Ata: Hakroyot, 1 Hahagana, Kiyat Beit, 750441.

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Friday, September 25
Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Roma, 523191; (evening), Kiyat Moshe, 1 Kiyat Moshe, 526136; (day and evening) Belsam, Salah Eddin, 72315; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Dar Adawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

Tel Aviv: (day) Netzah Yisrael, 11 Netzah Yisrael (between Sderot Chen and Kiyat Masaryk), 226545; (evening) Montefiore, 9 Sderot Yehudit (near Beit Kalka), 253710; (day and evening) Tzafon, 33 Yehuda Harari, 448955.

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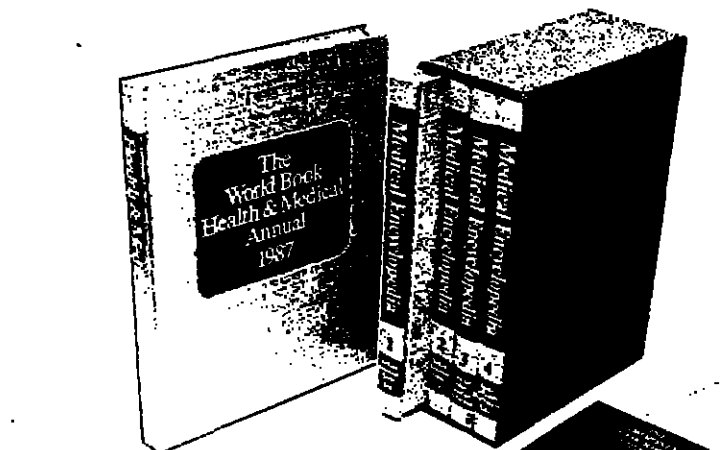
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See supplement, page 25

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Carful?? - Careful!!

managers' said.

Shipping sources in the Gulf said earlier that the tanker, the 102,799-tonne Gentle Breeze, had been abandoned. It was hit on Monday by gunners in an Iranian speedboat, they said.

But a source with a salvage company which has tugs nearby said the captain had left his vessel only to use a satellite radio. The source said one Filipino crewman had been killed but he had no information on any other casualties.

The Pentagon initially announced that four dead bodies had been found on the Iranian ship, but later reduced the number to three. Teheran Radio said five sailors were killed. It said the ship was part of Iran's navy, but denied the vessel was sowing mines.

Pentagon officials who demanded anonymity said the mines discovered on the ship were "old-fashion-

The bodies of the dead Iranian crew members had reportedly been removed from the vessel and taken to the Lassaie.

Hoffman said the U.S. helicopters assigned to the frigate USS Jarrett had been flying a routine nighttime patrol Monday when they discovered the Iran AJR. The spokesman said the copters spent "some time" observing the vessel from an unspecified distance using "night-vision devices."

"The helicopter crews were satisfied (the ship was dropping mines) and so reported to the commander of the Middle East force," Hoffman said. "It wasn't a snap judgment."

U.S. HOPES

(Continued from page one)

position. Instead, he says, they will be cautious against further provoking the Reagan administration.

Other U.S. officials, however, warned that the Iranians might step up their acts of international terror against the U.S., provided they could disguise their direct involvement. Indeed, U.S. counter-terrorist experts were yesterday bracing for these kinds of attacks around the world.

The clash on Monday, which resulted in the capture of some two dozen Iranian sailors, represented a significant turning point in the U.S. posture towards Iran since the Carter administration and the overthrow of the Shah.

Between then and Monday, the Iranians felt that they could get away with almost anything without fearing a direct U.S. military response. Now, however, Washington has signalled that it will expect a price.

Meanwhile, the first reaction in the U.S. to the latest incident was

largely favourable — as far as the Reagan administration was concerned. On Capitol Hill and in the news media, there was praise for the firm U.S. response to what is widely seen here as an Iranian provocation.

This was the first time that the U.S. has attacked an Iranian vessel since American ships began protecting reflagged convoys in the Gulf in July.

Since then, the U.S. Navy has repeatedly warned that it would strike those Iranian ships showing "hostile intent" — in other words: planting of mines.

But the favourable public reaction could change quickly if the fighting continues in the Gulf. U.S. "staying power" under those kinds of circumstances has in recent years been questionable.

Already, for example, there have been many members of Congress who have urged the administration to invoke the War Powers Resolution restricting U.S. involvement in the Gulf. The administration has opposed those proposals.

ous. And a Mitze Kámon woman interviewed on Israel Radio said: "A lot of people are staying indoors. It is a terrible thing to have Arab terrorists on the loose, especially as there are so many children around."

The three escapees are Khalil Sayedi Ahmed ar-Rahi, 33, who was serving a life sentence for the 1973 murder of Moshe Carmeli, deputy police chief of Gaza and northern Sinai; Ahmad Ismail Hussein abu Nasira, 27, serving life for the killing of a Gaza resident and for attempting to injure a police officer; and Kamel Salim Muhammad el-Nadi, 37, sentenced to a 47-year term for throwing grenades at soldiers in Gaza. All three are from the Gaza Strip.

Ben Ayoun said that the intense search would continue until the men are found. He dismissed reports that they may already have escaped across the Egyptian border, saying it was "far too early" to make such a suggestion.

The officer said police were investigating several sightings of suspicious persons reported by the public and said "some useful information has been received." But he refused to go into detail. "I call on the public not to hesitate to call the police if they see anything suspicious," he said.

Meanwhile Prison Service officials last night strongly rejected criticism of Prison Commissioner David Maimon in the wake of the escape — the second breakaway by security prisoners since he took over as head of the service in December 1986. The first was in May when six terrorists escaped from Gaza jail. Only one has been recaptured. "The attacks that have been made against Maimon are totally unfair," said a Prison Service spokesman. "He has been less than 10 months in the service and in that time he has carried out a revolution in the prisons. When he took office the whole system was a terrible mess.

"Of course he is ashamed at the escapes that have happened. But if it had not been for the work he has done there would have been even more."

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TENNIS

Stabholz quits captaincy

BY JACK LEON

Post Sports Reporter
TEL AVIV - Yosef Stabholz resigned last night from his post as Israel's non-playing Davis Cup tennis captain, after serving for ten years, during which he took Israel into the world group of the Davis Cup.

He recommended that similar action should be taken by his fellow-members of the team's professional staff involved in the recent cup debacle against India.

But Stabholz plans to continue to serve as chairman of the Israel Tennis Association's professional committee, he told a group of sports reporters here in a special briefing earlier in the day.

For Stabholz, 42, the resignation marks the end of an association with the Davis Cup team which goes back to 1965, when he turned out as a player for the first time. The former Maccabi Netanya youth footballer was a regular member of the Cup team until 1976, and, in the following year Stabholz took over as non-playing captain.

Stabholz said that he had been considering resigning for some time, once he had achieved his ambition of transforming Israel from one of the minnows of the annual competition into one of the elite group of 16 nations in the premier division.

He was in sight of taking Israel into the semi-finals after Israel's first-round away victory over third-

seeded Czechoslovakia, which had ensured Israel remaining in the World Group for another year. Then came the defeat in India.

Stabholz, a lawyer who serves the ITA in a voluntary capacity, pointed out that his legal practice and family life had suffered because of the time he devoted to the job and the amount of travelling the captaincy necessitated.

Stabholz revealed that he had dropped his original plan to recommend Shlomo Glickstein as his successor. This was after the former longtime champion told him he was not a candidate for the time being, as he intended to go on competing on the pro-tennis circuit in the immediate future.

The captain said he was "bitterly disappointed" by the 4-0 thrashing at the hands of India - without even managing to win one set in the entire quarter-final - not because Israel lost, but "because of the way we lost."

Stabholz stated categorically: "I take full responsibility for the defeat. In sport at the level of the Davis Cup, whether a team wins or loses, it is expected at the very least to play to its full potential on the given day."

In New Delhi the unforgivable had happened, with not one player performing to his full potential, something that had never happened before in all his years as captain. "While assuming this responsibility, I nevertheless feel that I did not get enough support from the other members of the professional staff. They left me on my own at a critical time."

(Together with Stabholz the other members of the professional staff were coach Shlomo Zoref, trainer Pini Shimon and masseur Michel Portail).

Stabholz admitted that before the tie he had believed that Israel could win in India, as they had in Czechoslovakia and before that in Austria, Holland and Switzerland. But, after seeing the efficiency of the host's players, Stabholz had doubted whether Israel could in fact have succeeded, even if they had realized their full potential.

Stabholz was full of praise for the backing he had received throughout the years from Israel Tennis Association chairman David Harik and his predecessor Avraham Feiger.

Stabholz submitted his resignation last night to the management committee of the ITA, but the committee, while taking note of the resignation, decided to discuss the matter only after the Grand Prix tournament in October at Ramat Hasharon.

Harik praised Stabholz and said that he had made a major contribution to Israel's Davis Cup successes. He hopes that Stabholz will reconsider his decision. If not, Harik will recommend that Glickstein should become player-captain of the team.



GRIM MOOD - Yosef Stabholz was not his usual affable self in India. On his left is Israel team coach Shlomo Zoref. The two are seen here making their way to the draw for the Davis Cup tie against India in New Delhi. (AFP)

COMMENT

Happy New Year to Sport

Most cynics in Israel will say that 5747 was a terrible year for Israeli sport, just as, in every previous year, they mourned the twelve months that had passed. This time, however, we disagree with them: we believe that the past year may prove to be the turning-point year in which Israeli sport took a giant stride forward.

First of all there are some very encouraging statistics published shortly before the year ended. Research revealed that no fewer than 800,000 Israelis above the age of 14 engage in some kind of sporting activity at least once every month. This is a sizable percentage of the adult population, although, of course, it is still too small. Yet it does signify that the message of the importance of participating in sport has at last got through.

Still to be regretted is the fact that women have not caught up with men in this regard. Statistics released this week by the Hapoel organization - the country's largest - indicate that in most clubs sportswomen comprise only some 15% of participants. It is to Hapoel's credit that they announced the diversion of considerable funds and the appointment of a number of senior coordinators to give popular sport for women a big boost.

As far as spectator sport is concerned, the pessimists can point gloomily to poor attendances at most soccer and basketball league games, and at track and field, swimming, tennis and other contests. These poor attendances may be explained as being due to the almost prohibitively high prices charged for tickets by short-sighted, greedy organisers.

That there is great interest in sport is proved by the ever-increasing interest in the sports pages of newspapers. It is no longer rare to see an Israeli, like an American or Englishman, glance at the headlines and then turn to the sports pages, instead of devouring every word written about the latest political crisis between Likud and Labour.

Gone are the days when players had to perform on appalling fields. Thanks largely to Sportoto, there are any number of excellent soccer fields and basketball courts; excellent tennis-courts, most of them provided by the TTC, with others built by the ITA and municipalities and hotels, abound; there is a first-rate athletics stadium and some adequate swimming-pools; the Wingate Institute provides scientific direction to sportsmen; there are some first-class coaches around, although it would be a good idea to divert some of the money spent on players to bringing front-rank foreign coaches to Israel.

If things are so good, why are they so bad? With the notable exception of tennis, our results in most sports have been very poor, although, in soccer, Miljenko Mijic is succeeding in building up a promising new national team.

Tennis had a wonderful year, beginning with the victory in Switzerland that made Israel winners of the European Zone and going on to a shock win against powerful Czechoslovakia. True, this was followed by that quarter-final defeat at the hands of India, and the notorious Amos Mansdorf contretemps, but at least Israel did take the loss in a sporting spirit, without whining.

The factor that distinguishes tennis from other sports, and that indicates what is missing in our basketball, soccer, athletics, swimming and other sports, is the deep and passionate sense of professional commitment shown by the tennis-players. The Grand Prix circuit is a very cruel master in which one cannot get by without being 100 per cent fit and dedicated. Tennis players know this and react accordingly so as to earn a livelihood.

Unfortunately, despite the enormous salaries they receive, participants in other sports still have an amateur and dilettantish approach; perhaps because, unlike the tennis players, they can get away with it because they compete so seldom against overseas stars.

All sportsmen now have their sights on the Seoul Olympics. So the good resolution for the New Year for all sportsmen and sportswomen must be: to be fitter, more dedicated and more committed. There is no royal road to success: the slackers, however talented, must be discarded when the teams for Seoul are chosen.

BASEBALL

Strange rescuers for Cards

NEW YORK (AP) - With slugger Jack Clark out of the line-up with a sprained ankle, the St. Louis Cardinals have to rely on unexpected sources for their power.

And no sources could be more unexpected than Vince Coleman and David Green.

Coleman, who through Saturday had one inside-the-park homer and one hit over the fence in his three-year career in the major leagues, homered for the second straight game as the Cardinals defeated visiting Philadelphia 3-1 on Monday night.

Green also homered for the Cardinals in the fifth inning, when they got all the three hits they scored in the game. Green's last previous major-league homer came on August 17, 1985.

"He's smokin' the ball," Cardinals manager Whitey Herzog said of Coleman's sudden power surge. "I'm surprised they didn't check his bat for cork." The victory kept the Cardinals 2½ games ahead of the New York Mets and pushed them four in front of Montreal in the National League East race.

"I'm just getting lucky right now," said Coleman, who was caught stealing twice in the game.

Pirates 5, Expos 2
Pittsburgh continued to make life miserable for NL East contenders as Doug Drabek and Jeff Robinson combined for a five-hitter against Montreal at Olympic Stadium.

The Pirates won for the 12th time in 15 games, including five of eight against the top contenders in the division.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Brook Jacoby snapped a tie with a leadoff homer in the seventh inning and Cleveland went on to beat visiting Oakland 6-3, thus denying Dave Stewart in his third attempt to become the major league's first 20-game winner.

Jacoby broke a 3-3 tie when he hit his 31st home run on a 1-1 pitch from Stewart, 19-12, who has lost his last three starts.

Mariners 5, Royals 1
Rookie Mike Campbell pitched a seven-hitter for his first major-league victory and Donnell Nixon homered and drove in two runs as hosts Seattle beat Kansas City 5-1.
Campbell, 1-4, who failed to win in seven previous attempts, allowed the only Kansas City run on a leadoff homer in the ninth by Kevin Seitzer, his 15th.



SURPRISE PACKET - Vince Coleman

White Sox 5, Angels 3
Joe Delmonico pitched six-hit ball for seven innings and Carlton Fisk homered and knocked in two runs as Chicago beat California at Anaheim.
Delmonico, 11-12, didn't walk a batter and struck out seven before needing relief help.

Conspiracy by owners

BY BEN WALKER

NEW YORK (AP) - Baseball owners conspired to "destroy" free agency after the 1985 season, an arbitrator said in a ruling that could force open the market for stars such as Jack Clark, Dale Murphy and Cal Ripken Jr.

In his 16-page decision, arbitrator Tom Roberts wrote that the clubs' approach to free agency in 1985 violated the collective bargaining

agreement between players and owners.

Roberts wrote that free agents "...surely had a value at some price and yet no offers were advanced." Roberts underlined "No" in his ruling.

The decision affects Kirk Gibson, Donnie Moore and 60 other 1985 free agents, but it offers no remedies. Hearings on those remedies begin this week.

AMERICAN LEAGUE EAST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	9	9	.500	—
Detroit	9	9	.500	1/2
Milwaukee	8	10	.444	8 1/2
New York	8	10	.444	8 1/2
Boston	7	11	.389	17 1/2
Baltimore	6	12	.333	28
Chicago	6	12	.333	34 1/2

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	8	10	.444	—
Oakland	7	11	.389	4
Kansas City	7	11	.389	6 1/2
Seattle	7	11	.389	6 1/2
San Diego	7	11	.389	10
California	7	11	.389	10 1/2
Chicago	6	12	.333	12

MONDAY'S GAMES: New York at Milwaukee (postponed due to wet grounds); Toronto 2, Baltimore 1; Boston 9, Detroit 4; Cleveland 6, Oakland 3; Chicago 5, California 3; Seattle 5, Kansas City 1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST

	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	8	10	.444	—
New York	8	10	.444	2 1/2
Montreal	8	10	.444	4
Philadelphia	7	11	.389	13 1/2
Pittsburgh	7	11	.389	15 1/2
Chicago	7	11	.389	17 1/2

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	8	10	.444	—
Cincinnati	7	11	.389	7 1/2
Houston	7	11	.389	8 1/2
Los Angeles	6	12	.333	17
Atlanta	6	12	.333	26 1/2
San Diego	6	12	.333	18 1/2

MONDAY'S GAMES: New York 7, Chicago 1; Pittsburgh 5, Montreal 2; St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 1; Los Angeles 4, San Francisco 2.

BOOK REVIEW: Philip Gillon

Smiley's double hunts the Ashes

HUNTERS OF THE LOST ASHES
by Allen Sygne, Weidenfeld & Nicholson 178 pp. \$9.95.

Many books have been written about cricket and the adoration accorded to this subtlest of all games, not only by sportsmen who appreciate the finest things in life, but also by hearties who see cricket largely as a catalyst for the consumption of vast quantities of alcohol. The noble game was recently endangered by one of those mercenary, vulgar plutocrats, who apparently abound like kangaroos in Australia, and who turned cricket into a circus act.

Furthermore, a peripheral part have been written by the hundred ever since Raffles represented England against Australia.

But I have never read a book which blends so successfully cricket lore, beer-swilling, wealthy Australian monsters making a mockery of the game and a really astute thriller abounding with twists and turns that come to an absolutely convincing and correct denouement.

Considered as a thriller, the book is a perfect spoof of that most overrated of all boring spy-pursuers,



John Le Carré's George Smiley, and the books in which he appears. James Ball is Smiley's alter ego, gone into retirement after years of devoted and unappreciated service

to Her Majesty. His nymphomaniac wife Jan is Mrs. Smiley in her advanced years, with a particular year for flannelled fools.

They are surrounded, as Smiley always is, by the usual crowd of upper-class traitors, anxious to betray England to anybody interested at every opportunity for no comprehensible reason.

The problem with which Ball is faced is one that may determine the future of Britain and her dominions, perhaps of the entire cricketing world on which the sun never sets. Somebody has broken into the museum at Lord's, smashing the glass showcase containing the urn in which were deposited The Ashes of English cricket of 1882, and has made off with them.

Sygne's style is witty and ironical, with some lovely take-offs, not only of La Carre, but also of revered cricket journalists. For instance, the theft inspired John Arlott to write an evocative piece about the traditional Middlesex couplet, "Let corn get foot-mould, let hayrick burn, but Heaven help 't harvest if we lose the Urn!"

The obvious suspect is the Australian equivalent of Packer, the Australian billionaire who shook cricket to its foundations. But, as Ball pursues the missing relic by joining a beer-swilling tourist group following the team of Mike Gatting on their tour of Australia, the plot gets thicker and thicker, and full of complexities. The KGB, the CIA, the Japanese emperor and various Arab spy services develop a sudden and astonishing interest in cricket, or, at least in the lost Ashes.

In the end all the tangled skeins are unravelled by Ball to our complete satisfaction. Ball even gets some token acknowledgement of his services to cricket in the form of an invitation to lunch at the Tavern public house next to the Grace Gates from the Senior Antiquarian of the MCC, which is more reward than poor Smiley ever gets.

I recommend the book wholeheartedly to readers who like cricket books or thrillers written with the light touch of a Gower late cut.

Magnanimously, I give away a key clue: the super-villains to blame for the whole mess are a lean Scot, who always wore a Harlequins cap, and a dark Notts miner who was one of the fastest bowlers who ever lived.

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LOCAL CRICKET

Young Ashdod coasted to a 10 wicket victory over Petah Tikva to keep on course in a bid to reach the semi-final playoffs of their Israel Cricket League division.

Scores: Petah Tikva 126 all out (B. Samuel 47, N. Davidson 33); Young Ashdod 129 - 0 (A. Aarons 56 n.o., A. Daniels 53 n.o.).

Young Ashdod and Lod are battling for the right to play the winners of the other division, Modern Ashdod in the October 17 semi-finals.

RUGBY

SUVA, Fiji. (AFP) - The Fiji Rugby by Union has announced that it has suspended all 23 Fijian "rebels" currently touring South Africa with the South Pacific Barbarians side.

Acting chairman George Pickering said the suspensions would remain in force until each player appeared before the Union's executive "to explain his conduct" in taking part in the unauthorised tour.

The sports pages are edited by Philip Gillon and Yoram Kessel

OLYMPICS Boycott call

HAVANA (AFP). Cuban president Fidel Castro has called on socialist countries to boycott the 1988 Seoul Olympics, unless the games are shared with North Korea. In a statement to athletes earlier in the day and published on Saturday, Castro said socialist countries would be "morally compromised" unless they followed Pyongyang's lead. He said that Cuba was prepared to go it alone if other socialist countries

failed to back the North even at the expense of losing the Pan American Games which Havana is due to host in 1991. North Korea has threatened a boycott unless demands to co-host the games are met. Pyongyang wants more than the five sports already offered by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) but the Seoul Olympic organising committee is deeply hostile to further concessions.

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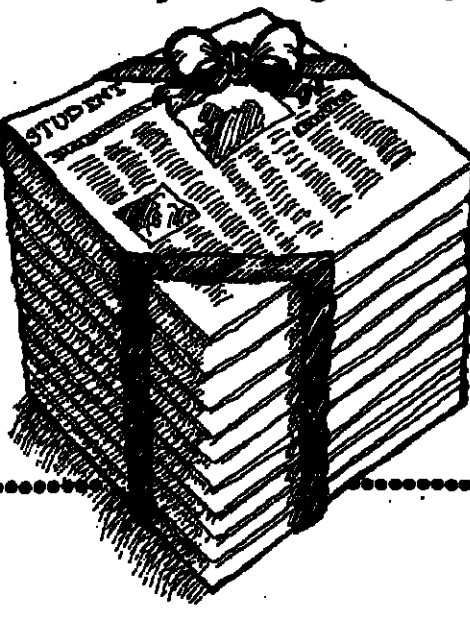
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Sun. 19:00 King Of Comedy, Dir. Martin Scorsese; 19:00 Rue Cases Negres, Dir. Euzhan Palcy; 21:00 La Moutte Di Prete, Dir. Dino Ris; 21:30 Riuscirono I Nostri Eroi A Ritrovare L'Africa Misteriosa? Scamparone In Africa, Dir. Ettore Scola

Mon. 19:00 The Glean Miller Story, Dir. Anthony Mann; 19:00 The Maltese Falcon, Dir. John Huston; 21:00 La Nette, Dir. Michelangelo Antonioni; 21:30 Rumble Fish, Dir. Francis Coppola

Tue. 16:00 Time Bandits, Dir. Terry

Gillon; 19:00 Fitzcarraldo, Dir. Werner Herzog; 19:00 Stagescoach, Dir. John Ford; 21:00 La Lot, Dir. Jules Dassin; 21:45 Dramma Della Gelosia, Dir. Ettore Scola

Wed. 19:00 Malcolm, Dir. Nadia Tass; 19:00 She Wore A Yellow Ribbon, Dir. John Ford; 21:00 Glass - Italian Style, Dir. Renato Castellani; 21:30 Requiem For A Nun, Dir. Bertrand Blier

Thu. 19:00 40 Sq.M. Deutschland, Dir. Tonis Bazer; 19:00 Personal Le Galois, Dir. Eric Rohmer; 21:00 Blind Vengeance, Dir. Joseph von Sternberg; 21:30 Permette? Rocco Papaleo, Dir. Ettore Scola; 24:00 Pink Floyd - The Wall, Dir. Alan Parker

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Two billion shekels up for grabs

SOME PEOPLE think recycling has to do with garbage. But NIS 2 billion is not garbage by anybody's standards. For a start, it's NIS500 for every man, woman and child in the country.

The recycling operation now getting underway to deal with this money is probably the biggest undertaking of its kind ever seen in this country — not because the actual amount is unprecedented, but because it involves such a broad cross-section of the general public.

At stake is the more than \$1.2 billion worth of bank shares that are available for redemption on October 31 this year. These are the shares that their owners "locked up" for four years in the immediate aftermath of the bank share collapse in October 1983. They now have to decide what to do with the shares.

What makes the forthcoming campaign unique is that the pot of gold that the bank shares represent is owned by many people. The have-not sections of the population are not in the game. But among the haves, no one has an enormous chunk, as is normally the case. The rules governing how many bank shares could be put into the four-to-six year closed scheme placed strict limits on the amount each individual could hold in it.

The result is that the amounts per person are generally quite small, with most people having between \$5,000 and \$15,000 coming due. This has several extremely important consequences.

From the point of view of macro-economic management, the Treasury is more worried about the \$1.2 b. coming up for redemption this October than the \$3.8 b. that will fall due next October. This sounds paradoxical, but the reason is quite straightforward. The big tranche next year is mostly held in large blocks by financial institutions — mutual funds, provident funds and others. These organizations have no interest in taking out the money coming free. They simply have to reinvest it in one way or another.

But the mass of individuals — hundreds of thousands of them — who hold this year's shares are in quite a different boat. The relatively small sums they have are just right for

spending, be it on a trip abroad, a new car, new lounge furniture, or anything else that happens to take their fancy.

The fear that a large proportion of the money falling due will be blown in a spending binge that might destabilize the economy has been the nightmare of Treasury officials for a long time. The object of the Treasury's campaign — which has already begun in the electronic and print media — is therefore quite simple, according to Yehuda Drori, Treasury capital markets commissioner, whose department is responsible for recycling the money while minimizing leakage and seepage along the way. "We are interested that the bulk of the money should remain in the financial system; we are relatively indifferent as to which specific channel of saving it chooses."

Drori is fairly confident now, with only a few weeks to go before the actual redemption, that his target will be reached. But he admits that he will never know how much of the \$1.2 b., or NIS2 b., was reinvested in one form or another, and how much was diverted to consumption. That is because the decisions regarding the money are being spread over a long period. For example, it is possible that bank share holders, who knew earlier this year that the money was coming due at the end of October, spent it several months ago, using other funds as a "bridging loan," and that when they receive the actual bank share money, they will immediately reinvest it. Despite appearances, this money will have been consumed, not saved.

Conversely, someone who withdraws the money and puts it in his current account, or on a short-term deposit, on October 30, may not spend it.

The question, therefore, is what will happen overall. The best guess is that some of the money will be used for consumption — at least 25 per cent by most estimates — while the majority will be reinvested.

SO MUCH for the big picture. But what concerns the individual who is



Jerusalem Post Finance Reporter Pinhas Landau advises holders of the bank shares available for redemption on October 31 to watch the media carefully over the next weeks, to ask the banks lots of questions, and above all, to keep their options open.

sitting on bank shares that will fall due in a few weeks is what he or she should do. What are the options open, and how does one choose among them?

What follows is some generalized information about what has happened so far, what is going on, and what can be expected as the deadline nears. If and when more special offers emerge and the competition heats up, further articles will examine them in detail.

For the moment, the main rule is keep all options open. This can and should be done until October 20, or as near as possible to that date.

October 20 represents the deadline for bank share holders to notify their bank or broker what to do with their current holdings. In terms of the decision-making process, it represents the first hurdle: Does one hold on to the shares for a further two years, on current Treasury terms, or demand redemption with a view to doing something else with the money?

Note: If you do nothing, you will automatically retain the shares. This is by no means a disaster, but it may not be the optimum thing to do.

The terms established in 1983 under the bank share "arrangement"

were as follows: Those who did not put their shares into a closed, or blocked, savings scheme, will have them redeemed in October 1988. Those who did lock them up have a choice of redeeming them now, or retaining them for two further years.

The original terms were that for each \$100 closed in the scheme in October 1983 values, the holder would receive \$112 in October 1987. If he cashed in his holding then, if he held on for two further years, he would receive \$134 in October 1989. In other words, the yield was fixed at a very low level from 1983 to 1987, and at a higher level,

equivalent to 9.4 per cent dollar-linked interest, for 1987-1989.

These terms are still in place. However, the Treasury has made two improvements in the terms that will apply from now until October 1989. In the first place, an alternative offering index-linkage has been added. If it transpires that dollar-linkage, with 9.4 per cent interest per annum for two years, still turns out to be less than the Consumer Price Index rise from September 1987 to September 1989, then the index-linked option will be applied.

While the index-linked route offers no interest at all, it is a useful safety net that, given the dollar's performance over the past two years, and the government's desire to hold the exchange rate as steady as possible for as long as possible. It can reassure investors afraid that dollar-linked savings are ineffective.

Secondly, the Treasury is unfreezing the 1989 shares, and will allow them to be traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, as the 1988 redemption shares have always been. This means that if the holder suddenly experiences a need for funds, he will be able to sell the shares on the market, although what he gets will depend on the state of the market at the time.

This option of holding the shares through to 1989 is, therefore, not devoid of merit. But the public today is very leery of dollar-linked savings, and the chances are that most people will decide by October 20 that they want to redeem their shares. Then they will face the second hurdle — what to do with the money that they will get on October 30.

THOSE WHO intend to spend it, or have already spent it and owe what they will receive to others, will have no difficulty in deciding. But many others are wavering, or intend to save the money.

They need to begin gathering information on what is available. The primary source of investment advice in the autumn of 1987 is still, the

Bejski report notwithstanding, the commercial banking system.

The banks are taking a very varied approach toward the whole bank share redemption issue. Bank Hapoalim took a decision early on that it was going to make a big play over this issue. Building on the experience it garnered from the earlier redemption of bank shares held by pensioners, which took place in October 1985 for a mere \$700 m., Hapoalim moved as early as mid-August to activate a network of general information and advice, and of personal counselling for their customers.

Every customer who holds bank shares — there are 110,000 of them — received a statement of his holding and an invitation to have a pow-wow with his local branch about what to do. Non-Hapoalim customers were also solicited, and a special telephone advisory service established.

The only other bank to show an early presence has been Mizrahi, which has offered bridging loans to allow customers to deposit their money early in savings schemes and benefit from the price indices for September and October. Very recently, Discount opened up an information campaign and is beginning to show activity in the loan-for-savings field.

Leumi has not been heard from yet — but this must be a matter of time. It seems that they are saving all their ammunition for a major assault in the latter stages of the campaign. Which of the banks will do best for themselves will only become clear when all the results are in.

For bank share holders, the best bet for the next few weeks is to watch the advertising in the media while at the same time not hesitating to ask questions of their banks, and of other banks that offer suitable services. The banks are not always so accommodating and they should be taken advantage of.

The bank shares are no longer shares, and offer no rights in the banks. But they do offer participation in the NIS2 billion bonanza now taking place, and as such they give their holders the dubious pleasure of being pursued and even fought over for their dowry.

Continuing boom in business sector

ACCORDING to the Bank of Israel's latest forecasts, the Gross Domestic Product of the business sector will grow in 1987 by around 5 per cent. If this prediction is realized, it will be the third consecutive year of rapid growth for the business sector. In 1985 and 1986, it grew by some 4 per cent. Moreover, it appears that if the Jewish year would have been the basis for measurement, the outgoing 5747 would have registered an even larger growth of some 7 per cent.

Thus, there is no question that the economy has been undergoing a rapid expansion, and that from mid-1986 to mid-1987 it has been booming. For the ordinary citizen, what

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter Avi Temkin looks at what is hidden behind the current Israeli economic prosperity.

matters is whether the expansion has meant higher standards of living. For the economists, however, the issue is whether the boom is part of a process of sustained "economic growth."

Growth involves not only a rapid increase in output. That could be a temporary phenomenon, or even a kind of statistical "optical illusion" caused by the way output is mea-

sured. Usually, what matters is whether the growth in GDP, or whatever measuring instrument is used, is accompanied by structural changes in employment and investment.

In the Israeli context, such changes involve resources moving from the public to the business sector, especially that part of it working for foreign markets.

Using those criteria, the economy appears to be on the right track. That at least is what the Bank of Israel has said. In a recent survey of economic developments, the bank's economists said that the expansion was concentrated in the business sector, and took place while the public sector's share of the economy was shrinking. The bank's economists were careful to qualify this statement, saying that the process has only begun, and that so far there are only a few signs of it. Nevertheless, they could not fail to take note of such developments.

The figures quoted by the survey showed that unemployment fell from 6.7 per cent in the last three months of 1986 to 5.6 per cent in the first quarter of 1987. Moreover, the increase in employment took place entirely in the business sector. In the first three months of the year, 20,000 new workers joined the part

of the economy which is not directly supported by the state budget, and many of the new employees went to work in the export-oriented sector.

The bank survey noted that in the April-June period, there had been a small rise in unemployment, to 5.9 per cent, but this was the result of workers, who left troubled industries and the public sector, not having been absorbed yet by expanding industries. In the April-June period, the survey said, employment in the public sector dropped by 20,000 persons, and that it rose in the business sector by 14,000. While the pace of activity has slowed down in the last four or five months, it is still high, and has been led by a rapid expansion in investment and growth in exports.

FIGURES published by the Central Bureau of Statistics this week allow a more detailed analysis of these trends. They showed that the number of workers employed in industry rose from 320,000 in the first half of 1986 to 330,000 in the first six months of the year. In commerce, hotels and restaurants, the number of employees went up from 176,000 in January-June 1986 to 189,000 in the first six months of 1987.

These two sectors are heavily dependent on exports or tourism, and between them they absorbed the bulk of the newly employed workers. Moreover, the rise in the number of workers in industry took place despite the deep crisis affecting the electronic and defence industries, which have been hurt by falling orders and the drop in the value



(Ariel Varhastig)

of the dollar, and have therefore dismissed many workers in the past several months.

But such a rosy picture should be qualified. A drop in the number of tourists could rapidly reverse the trend. Employment in industry has been apparently growing in the "traditional" sectors, like textile and food products, in which the prospects for growth in productivity are smaller than in other industrial sectors.

The question then is whether the course is sustainable. For that to happen, the process must be extended to the "lead" sectors, such as electronics, optics, computers, etc. The probable dislocation caused by scrapping the Lavi — an unavoidable decision — will mean that those industries are prime candidates to suffer a further drop in orders in the immediate future. What is unknown is how long it will take until an adjustment is made, and the funds allocated for alternative projects, such as orders for weapons needed by the army, get these industries growing again.

It is a question of timing. Will the

economy go on growing until the adjustments are made? This depends in large measure on world developments. If the present trend of expansion in the world economy, including a rise in international tourism, continues, then it will be possible to bridge this difficult period.

But this will depend, in large part, on policies of the Treasury and the Bank of Israel. The issue is one of financing long-term expansion. Firms have been able to raise long-term capital at 7 or 8 per cent in annual terms, which represents a definite improvement compared to the past. But the Bank of Israel insists on keeping short-term interest rates sky-high, some 30 to 40 per cent in real annual terms.

What happens is that for a number of firms, the cost of capital "at the margin" becomes very high. Those companies without internal funds or without access to long-term borrowing, and with a need to raise working capital, may develop a shaky financial basis, based on a self-expanding, short-term debt which eats up profits.

Rapidly expanding economies are

particularly prone to the development of "bubbles" — large-scale speculation in specific commodities or financial assets. Once the bubble bursts, it is almost impossible to avoid economy-wide repercussions, including bankruptcies and slowing down the pace of activity.

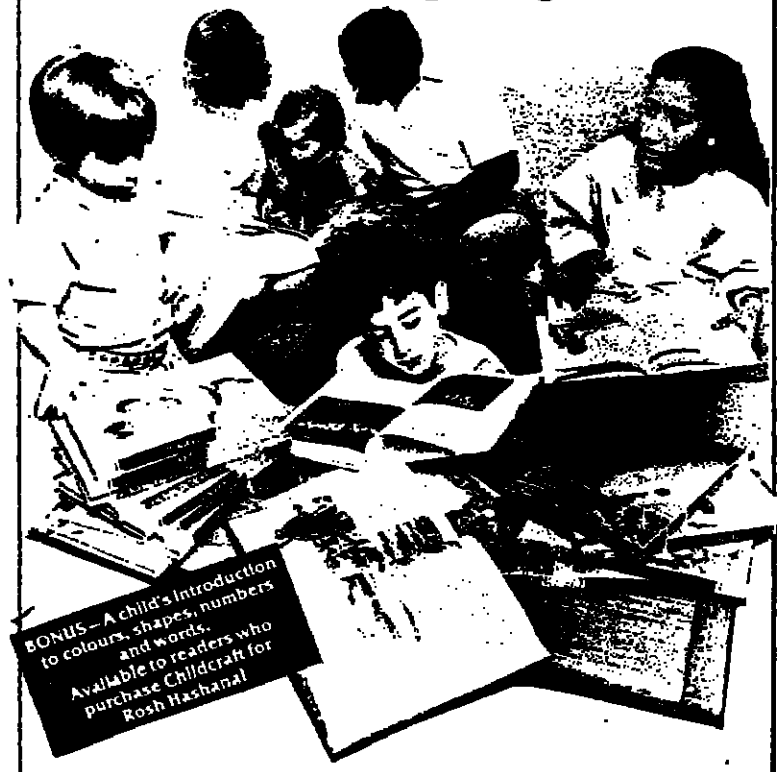
Speculation is always based on the expectation of high and quick profits. One way of reducing the dangers of such bubble developing would be to make short-term interest much less attractive relative to long-term yields. As long as the gap between short- and long-term interest rates is wide, the prospects for bubbles will be always high.

Thus, the same Bank of Israel which wrote the survey on economic development should be made accountable for future developments in the economy. As long as it makes financial crises unavoidable by insisting on astronomical interest rates, it cannot expect the process of economic growth to continue.

The economic pages are edited by Shlomo Maoz.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE Gottlieb Schumacher Research Institute
of the Christian Contribution to the Development of 19th Century Palestine
will take place on
Monday, September 28, 1987 at 10:00 a.m.
in the Observation Gallery, 30th Floor, Eshkol Tower, University of Haifa

Guests:
Mr. Ephraim Evron — President of the University
Mr. Moshe Shahal — Minister of Energy and Infrastructure
His Excellency Wilhelm Haas — Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany
Addresses:
Dr. Manfred Gents — Member of the Board of Daimler-Benz AG, Stuttgart — Sponsors of the Institute
Prof. Alex Carmel — Head of the Institute
Summation: Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor — Rector of the University

The public is invited

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